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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT



Issue No 81
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April 1, 2009

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Helping you make
the right choice

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MANN FACES FIGHT TO AVOID EXTRADITION

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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Picture PHIL HOUGHTON



TOWN GOES ON SHOW

Faversham tourist chiefs greeted thousands of visitors to The Travel & Leisure Show at the weekend in Dover. They showcased the best the town has to offer for those looking to discover the county's top attractions. The event was organised by KOS Media - publishers of this newspaper.

■ BY NICK AMES

FIREFIGHTER Garry Mann's nightmare after his arrest during football tournament Euro 2004 has been reignited.

And now the 51-year-old faces a battle to avoid extradition back to Portugal, five years after first being arrested.

Mr Mann was arrested at his home in Beaumont Davey Close on Friday, by police bearing a European Arrest Warrant issued in Portugal. He was then dragged before Westminster Magistrates before being bailed until tomorrow.

Mr Mann was accused of hooliganism in the town of Albufeira when 200 England fans clashed with riot police. The disturbances followed England's elimination from the tournament by the hosts on penalties after a 2-2 draw.

He always claimed his innocence and stated he was not even in the area of the clash, but in a bar in another part of town.

But together with 10 other fans he appeared before a Portuguese court where he was convicted of public order offences and resisting arrest.

Mr Mann was sentenced to two years in prison, but was immediately deported back to the UK.

It is not clear what has prompted the Portuguese authorities' renewed interest in the case and Mr Mann says he remains in the dark.

After the initial incident the firefighter claimed he had had "a thoroughly unfair trial" and was subjected to "sleep deprivation and beatings" by police in Albufeira.

He was speaking at the offices of the Fair

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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TOP TV CLIPS



1 How charity shops let you make a fashion statement and save cash with Julie Maddocks. **Search 'clothes'.**



2 Campaigners at Folkestone's historic Leas Cliff Lift, now facing permanent closure. **Search 'Leas'.**



3 Highlights from Dover Athletic's 6-0 win that clinched the Ryman Premier League title. **Search 'Dover'.**

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PIONEERING: Mayor of Swale Cllr Alan Willicombe met prisoners in the community scheme

Community work gives prisoners a positive future

■ BY NICK AMES

A PIONEERING scheme which gives prisoners serving time in secure jails the chance to take part in community work is currently taking place in the town.

The railway banks alongside Whitstable Road recently received a thorough cleaning courtesy of inmates of Stanford Hill Prison on the Isle of Sheppey. Work was done as part of the Active Citizenship Together for Swale project.

The pioneering scheme, aimed at assisting prisoners in their rehabilitation, gets its official opening in Sheerness on Friday. It is likely to be the model for other similar projects in different parts of the UK.

The prisoners working in Faversham received a visit from the Mayor of Swale, Cllr Alan Willicombe and his wife Jean. The group of four was also met by Swale council staff and escorted by a prison officer.

"This is an excellent scheme," said Cllr Willicombe. "It helps the prisoners back into the community and prepares them for life outside. I understand a lot of prisoners have

low self esteem and this gives them the chance to do something positive. Many have a lack of education which has been the reason they turned to crime in the first place... this is a way of showing them they can contribute and make a difference."

The scheme is offered to prisoners serving sentences of between three years and life – which usually means around 15 years.

Those who can take part have to have shown excellent behaviour while serving their time. They are constantly monitored and any signs of bad attitudes or problems mean they are removed from the scheme.

Chris Carter is the prison officer who supervised the workers.

"It is about repaying society," he said. "The prisoners know they are making a difference to the community and this is the first stage of the project. It all goes towards the parole of prisoners. It shows they can be trusted and set a good example."

"They work extremely hard as well – one of the other projects we have been involved in locally was helping an old lady with her garden."

"They really took pride in that and it is a pleasure to work with them in this way. In my years as a prison officer this is the most worthwhile and satisfying project I have been involved with."

Mann: Police victimised me

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Trials Abroad group in London.

Director Stephen Jakobi said Mann was "traumatised" by his experience in Portugal during the hearing.

The European Convention of Human Rights had been breached during Mann's trial on several counts, he said.

The lawyer said Mr Mann was not promptly told, in a language he understood, what he was accused of, and was not given sufficient time to prepare a defence or gather witnesses, Mr Jakobi added.

"It's a clean sweep of an unfair trial. [Such cases] usually pass two or three of these grounds, but the lot is unique. A trial that concludes within 24 hours of arrest in itself makes it impossible to comply with the rules of a fair trial."

Mr Mann, a Birmingham City fan, said "crucial" CCTV footage from the bar, which could clear his name, had not been seen by the court and had been destroyed.

Police had attacked him as he left the bar to return to his hotel he added.

"I was then held at the police headquarters with a number of others," he said. "We were subjected to 15 hours of sleep deprivation and beatings if we attempted to shut our eyes. I feel thoroughly victimised by a wholly unfair trial. I hope this matter is resolved as soon as possible."

Kent Fire and Rescue Service declined to say whether Mr Mann was still working.

A spokeswoman said: "We are aware there is an investigation and we will be keeping a very close eye on this situation. However, at this stage we are unable to comment further due to the legal procedures taking place."

Cool display makes science engaging

SCIENCE week at the Abbey School was organised by staff to celebrate the art of discovery and to "show pupils the ways in which science can be cool, engaging and creative".

Activities were organised throughout the week ranging from science magic to physics.

A school spokeswoman said: "We had the cool physics team from the University of Kent; they did a fantastic show. The icing on the cake was the production of blue and green ice cream using liquid nitrogen."

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Villagers determined to save popular local

Hundreds sign petition for pub

BY NICK AMES

MORE than 600 people have backed a campaign to prevent a popular village pub being closed and turned into flats.

The Railway Tavern in Teynham is under threat because locals believe owners Enterprise Inns want to turn it into flats.

It has confirmed it is looking to dispose of the site - but says it has not ruled out selling it on to remain a licensed premises. Meanwhile, support is gathering for proposals by local businessman Hari Hariharan, who wants to set up an Indian restaurant in part of the pub while allowing locals to continue to drink and play darts and pool in the remaining area.

A recent meeting was attended by Cllr Trevor Fentiman and Sittingbourne's prospective Conservative candidate Gordon Henderson. Both are backing the campaign to save the pub.

Between them Mr Hariharan and resident Gary Kadwill have collected 600 signatures on a petition calling for the pub to be kept open.

Among the reasons for the suggestion the pub should be closed is that it is "too isolated".



BOTTOM OF THE GLASS: Villagers fear their local pub, The Railway Tavern, will be closed and turned into flats

But locals pointed out it is close to the station and is part of a row of residential properties.

Mr Kadwill said: "Until recently the pub had thriving darts and pool teams but because owners Enterprise Inns have run the place down they have drifted away."

Villager James Cambræ said: "This is big business trying to dictate to villagers. They are not brewers they are just a property company."

"If this place closes people won't necessarily go to the remaining pubs because they don't want to drink and drive. People want to drink in their own neighbourhood. They won't want to go half a mile down the road."

Cllr Fentiman said so far Enterprise had

ignored phone calls from the campaigners but pledged the maximum pressure would be put on the company to ensure locals get their wish to continue drinking in the Railway.

Lesley Wield of Enterprise Inns said: "Enterprise Inns can confirm the Railway Tavern has been identified for disposal. Our policy is to dispose of sites on an individual basis, reflecting in each case the opportunities available for maximising value for our shareholders."

"On occasion, these are sold de-licensed, but this is certainly not a strict policy and a significant number are sold for continued pub and other licensed uses."

Clear your garden to discourage rats

SPRING cleaning can help the borough battle the menace of rats, according to health officers.

Swale council is advising home owners to have a garden clear-up this month to reduce the risk of attracting vermin.

Rats are a perennial problem but can cause a nuisance if populations are given the environment in which to breed.

Rob Viner, pest control officer, is offering tips to help reduce the risk of rats being attracted into gardens; they include preventing gardens from becoming overgrown, clearing up spill: bird food, ensuring compost units are secure, improving drainage and making sure pet food is not left unattended.

Mr Viner said: "If you follow these quick tips, your home and garden will be much less likely to encourage pests."

"Signs of rat activity include droppings, smear marks on walls, gnawing marks, and burrow entrances."

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Learn how prisoners help the community. Search 'prisoners'.

Palace visit for fire chief to collect CBE

KENT Fire and Rescue Service's chief fire officer has collected his CBE from the Princess Royal at Buckingham Palace.

Charlie Hendry, from Doddington, was given the award for services to local Government, including his work on accident prevention.

He was appointed a Commander of the British Empire in the New Year Honours List.

The award recognises the work the 48-year-old has undertaken nationally advising on fire and rescue matters and for his service to Kent and Medway.

He said: "It's obviously a tremendous honour and is also a recognition of the outstanding work of our fire and rescue service."

Mr Hendry has had a long career. He joined London Fire Brigade in 1983, where he attended incidents including the fatal train crash at Wembley in 1984 as well as leading London-wide planning for the Millennium celebrations. In October 1999 he also commanded fire and rescue operations at the Puddington Rail Disaster.

The following year he joined KFRS as deputy chief fire officer, spending six years in the post before being promoted to chief fire officer.

New council boss 'thrilled and excited' over borough move

SWALE has officially announced its new chief executive will be Abdool Kara - as exclusively revealed in last week's YourSwale.

Mr Kara joins the authority from his former position as assistant chief executive at the London borough of Merton.

The move was officially confirmed at a full council meeting on Thursday.

Mr Kara took up the post at Merton in August 2005, and in this role he led the organisation to a "four star, improving strongly" rating from the Audit Commission in February 2009; the highest rating possible.

Mr Kara previously worked for the Audit Commission for seven years in a variety of roles, including operations manager for the housing inspectorate and head of comprehensive performance assessment policy.

He said "I am thrilled to be the new chief executive and really excited about helping the council to meet the challenges it faces and making a positive difference for the people of Swale."



"I know residents want the council and its services to work properly, so it will be one of my main focuses to look at how things are done, fix the performance issues that need addressing, and build on the services the council provides that are already of a high quality."

He will take over as full-time chief in July.



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Palm Sunday concert for Cathedral appeal

CHORISTERS from across Kent will gather in Canterbury Cathedral on Palm Sunday for a performance featuring more than 200 singers.

Members of choirs and choral societies from all over the county have been invited to perform Stainer's Crucifixion and Fauré's Requiem in support of the Save Canterbury Cathedral Appeal.

Tickets for the performance, in the Nave and starting at 7.30pm, are £10 for adults, £8 concessions.

They can be booked on 01227 464764.

Tories invite MP Gale to contest Bay seat

HERNE Bay MP Roger Gale has been reaffirmed as the Conservatives' parliamentary candidate for the next general election.

He received unanimous endorsement at the North Thanet Conservative Association's annual meeting at Hampton Church hall on Friday. It backed a decision taken before the anticipated 2007 election for Mr Gale to stand again.

He said: "I regard it as a continuing privilege and honour that I have been once again chosen."

K&C staff rewarded for their dedication

KENT and Canterbury Hospital staff were praised at an awards night for NHS workers.

The ceremony, sponsored by businesses working with the NHS, was held at the Ashford International Hotel.

Winners received a trophy, certificate, lapel pin, mug and a photograph to commemorate the event as chief executive Ann Sutton presented the awards.

Kent and Canterbury's cleaning staff were singled out for special praise for keeping the building hygienic.

Shipshape sea cadets celebrate anniversary

HERNE Bay Sea Cadets celebrated their 60th anniversary as part of the annual inspection and prizegiving last week.

The inspection was carried out by town MP Roger Gale and the Deputy Lieutenant of Kent, Brigadier John Meardon. Thomas Clifton was presented with the shield for best cadet, and Thomas Heathcote, 11, was named best junior cadet.

Music was provided by the combined bands of Herne Bay and Dover Sea Cadets and the Kent Police band.

Not enough steel, too much ice, but centre nearly ready

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

WHITSTABLE will finally get its new health centre this summer after a series of delays held up building work.

The Estuary View Medical Centre, run by Whitstable Medical Practice, is intended to open in July providing new facilities such as x-rays, and more space to cope with expanding patient numbers.

The existing team of doctors based at the surgeries in both Whitstable and Chestfield will divide between the old and new buildings. Where appointments are to be conducted will depend on which doctor patients are registered with.

The opening date has been moved back twice already. Practice manager Lesley King said: "We have had a few delays. The building work was

held up by a shortage of steel last year, and we had very wintry weather earlier this year. It got really icy just as they were pouring the concrete."

The new building is just off the roundabout opposite the Mariners View housing estate. But with the building nearly completed, patients in Whitstable can look forward to a new practice – including a new minor injuries unit.

Patients using the existing Whitstable practices will also benefit as pressure on space and doctors' time is eased.

Mrs King said: "We have 32,300 patients and are finding we have just not got enough space to offer all the services we would like, so we need a third building."

"When the new centre opens we will have

three GPs surgeries equidistant from each other serving different parts of the town.

"We aim to have an equal number of doctors in each, with an equal number of patients."

When the new centre opens Whitstable Medical Practice will reorganise its resources and has already started consulting with patients.

Mrs King said: "Half our doctors will move from Whitstable Health Centre to the new building. We need to do a lot of consultation with patients about the move, to find out if they want to move with their doctors or stay at the same surgery."

"Most people like to stay with their doctors, if they can."

The practice is also in talks with Stagecoach and Canterbury council to try to get a bus service provided to the centre. The council executive will consider proposals at a future meeting.

SOME PEOPLE ARE ON THE PITCH ...



Two of Kent's top function bands will be entertaining at a huge open-air gig at the Belmont, Whitstable next month.

The gig, a fundraiser for Whitstable Town FC, is also part of a move to provide more community entertainment. Estate agent Neil Harrington, who helped organise the gig, said: "The club is looking to provide big community events at a central location so people can get together and have a good time."

Rubber Biscuit, the 12-piece R'n'B and soul band, pictured left, are headlining, supported by renowned party band Hullabaloo, below. The stage will be set up in the seating area with the crowd on the pitch.

Organisers are hoping 2,500 fans will enjoy the evening's entertainment. The gig is on Friday, May 15. Gates will open at 6pm and the show starts at 7pm.

Wristbands are £10 if pre-ordered, or £15 on the night. Go to www.eventsatthebelmont.co.uk or call into Kent Estate Agencies 10-12 High Street Whitstable CT5 1BQ or Whitstable Town FC to obtain yours.



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CURTAIN CALL: Experts will continue their investigations into the strange noises today, April 1

Theatre's next performance? The exorcist

AN EXORCIST will be brought in to rid the old Marlowe Theatre of evil spirits after builders taking up the stage reported a series of strange events last week.

Work has already begun on dismantling the inside of the theatre, which closed for the final time on March 22 after the Night of a Thousand Stars gala performance.

Much of the stage was removed and auctioned off to fans last Saturday, many of whom were keen to take home a piece of the old Marlowe as a keepsake.

But as the stage was lifted, builders and staff still working in the theatre started reporting spooky phenomena.

Catholic priest Father Joseph Buquet, of the little known holy order Caveat Lector, is the man entrusted with ousting the spirits and allowing building work to continue undisturbed.

Fr Buquet is currently working at the Opéra Garnier in Paris, and was unavailable to comment as we went to press.

The alleged haunting has taken many forms. Many workers at the theatre refused to sit down in the auditorium, often remaining on their feet for an entire shift after ghostly manifestations were reported congregating behind

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

benches and chairs. Cleaner Ruth Abbottsill said: "It was awful. I was sitting on a bench on the stage and suddenly my friend screamed and started pointing behind me."

"But when I looked round, there was nothing there. This happened several times, and I was quite shaken by the end of it."

Those working in the theatre at night say they have also heard ghostly laughter.

Experts on the paranormal say the problems will continue into the new £25.6 million Marlowe due to open in 2011, until the spirits are banished by the ghostbusters.

Gibb Riche, chairman of the Canterbury Library of Abnormal Phenomena's Theatre-Related Apparitions Panel said: "It is absolutely vital this ghost is exorcised."

"Some people say it is merely a man in a sheet who had too much to drink at the after-show party and became disorientated."

"But this ghost is very real, and will continue to make a spectacle of itself unless action is taken. And if we don't get it on the first go, we'll have to do it again then won't we?"

One builder, who declined to give his name, said the apparition resembled a "plump, masculine-looking woman in a colourful frock".

St Anselm's pupils film their abbey trip

ST ANSELM'S pupils have produced a video reporting on their work in the community and posted the results on our free broadband TV channel www.yourkenttv.co.uk.

Pupil James McCrossan made the short video which reports on the sixth form's recent visit to Minster Abbey.

The Catholic school visits the abbey once a month to help the community, taking on basic yet essential maintenance jobs such as gardening.

To view the clip simply log on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'Anselms'

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NEWS IN BRIEF

UCA graduation U-turn

CANTERBURY art students will graduate in the city this year after forcing university bosses into a U-turn.

University for the Creative Arts chiefs wanted to combine the three separate Canterbury, Rochester and Maidstone campus celebrations into one day and host it at Maidstone Studios.

But the move was opposed by hundreds of students. They will now attend a ceremony at the King's School, as in previous years.

Last week, undergraduates set up groups on social networking site Facebook calling for the independent ceremonies to be reinstated.

A petition was also signed by more than 600 members.

A spokesman said: "Having listened to students' views, the university has taken the decision to offer separate graduation ceremonies in Canterbury, Maidstone and Rochester."

Google eyes our streets

GOOGLE'S controversial Street View service is now mapping the Canterbury district after motorists reported a camera car parked near Herne Bay.

Street View, launched last week, offers street level views of British cities including London, Edinburgh and Manchester. It has come under fire over privacy concerns and that it could help burglars looking for targets.

A black car with a camera on a 360-degree mount attached to the roof was seen on the Thanet Way last week. The images are not expected to go live for several weeks.

Pub praised by residents

A WINCHEAP pub has agreed not to increase its opening hours after objections from residents.

Neighbours and ward councillor Nick Eden-Green praised landlords of the Imperial for their understanding after complaints about proposals to extend opening hours.

The pub, in Martyrs' Field Road, has agreed to pursue a food-led business strategy instead of extending drinking hours.

Cllr Eden-Green said: "What could have been a confrontational meeting turned out to be very friendly. The landlords were very accommodating."

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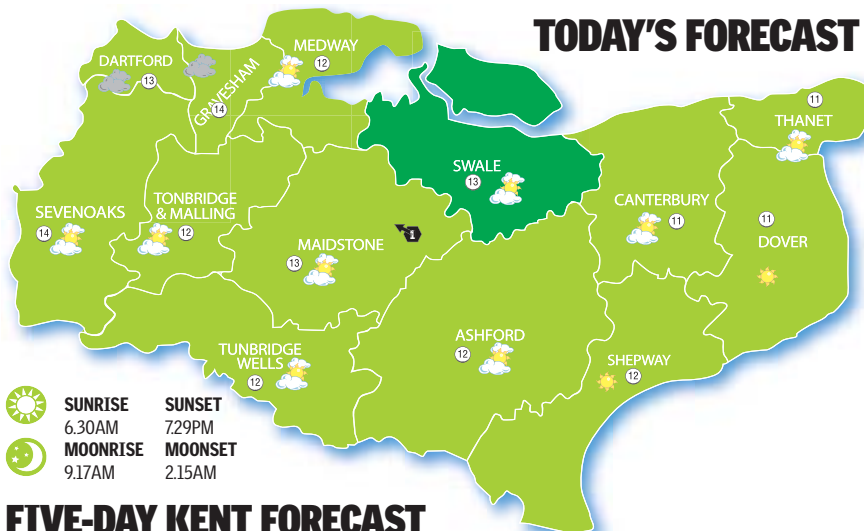
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WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	8:24am	5.0m
	Sunday	9:57am	5.2m
Dover	Saturday	7:09am	5.4m
	Sunday	8:42am	5.6m
Dungeness	Saturday	6:31am	6.0m
	Sunday	8:09am	6.0m
Ramsgate	Saturday	7:39am	4.0m
	Sunday	9:12am	4.2m
Sheerness	Saturday	8:12am	4.9m
	Sunday	9:45am	5.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	8:24am	4.4m
	Sunday	10:03am	4.6m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	9°C	Madrid	7°C
Athens	16°C	New York	6°C
Barcelona	12°C	Paris	10°C
Beijing	8°C	Rome	17°C
Bombay	34°C	Sydney	23°C
Cape Town	22°C	Tenerife	19°C
Cardiff	11°C	Tokyo	12°C
Gibraltar	16°C	Vancouver	9°C
Hong Kong	22°C	Warsaw	8°C
Las Palmas	20°C	Wellington	21°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	14°C	14°C	13°C	14°C	14°C	Gravesend	15°C	14°C	15°C	16°C	15°C
Canterbury	13°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	Maidstone	14°C	13°C	14°C	14°C	14°C
Chatham	12°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	12°C	Ramsgate	13°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	12°C
Dartford	15°C	14°C	15°C	16°C	15°C	Rochester	12°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	12°C
Dover	12°C	11°C	12°C	11°C	12°C	Sevenoaks	13°C	12°C	14°C	13°C	13°C
Faversham	12°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	12°C	Sittingbourne	12°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	12°C
Folkestone	12°C	11°C	12°C	11°C	12°C	Tonbridge	14°C	13°C	14°C	15°C	15°C
Gillingham	12°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	12°C	Tun Wells	14°C	13°C	14°C	15°C	15°C



TORN OFF A STRIPE: One of the brave health club staff

Charity gains from staff's pain in waxing marathon

MALE staff at the Reynolds Health Club in Sittingbourne took part in a waxing marathon to raise funds for children's hospice Demelza House.

They managed to raise a total of £623.50, with donations coming from members who wanted to see instructors get a hair removing wax treatment.

Instructor Dave Cunningham said: "The mantra 'no pain, no gain' is usually applied to exercise, but it certainly applied when I was getting waxed. I've never felt pain like it.

"One of my colleagues even had their armpit hair done. I just had to remind myself it was all in a good cause."

Sue Piper, who is head of fundraising at the charity which cares for terminally ill children and their families, sent a message of thanks to the participants.

"I am constantly amazed at the lengths people will go to help support us," she said.

"The amount raised could provide 12 hours of precious sleep and rest for a mother and father knowing their child is safely in the hands of our care team."

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QUESTION & ANSWER

NIKI PEARSON



Q What made you decide to set up such a unique enterprise?

A Ecorium is a boutique offering a wide range of luxury, hard-to-find, and niche natural and organic beauty brands at an affordable price. I started ecorium because I hated having to purchase my natural skincare at health food shops. I thought about a place where I could go and have the beauty counter experience and come away feeling special about my purchase whether I'd spent £5 or £50. And ecorium is that place. It's a space where you can browse without any pressure, try the testers without feeling like you have to purchase, and take away generous samples to use at home and find out how good the products we stock really are.

Q Why is it important for your business to be green?

A As consumers we use the resources on this planet as if we had another one to go to. If, as a retailer, I can make it easier for consumers to do the right thing, then it's a no-brainer for me. We have looked at ways in which our impact on the environment is as minimal as it can be which means that when people buy from ecorium, it doesn't cost the earth.

Q How is your shop environmentally friendly?

A The products we stock have fantastic green credentials because the people who produce natural and organic skincare products tend to

have a very ethical outlook to their own business practices. When we were setting up the shop, it was absolutely key that we adopted a green ethos. For example, we light our shop using less than 150 watts of electricity, something we're really proud of. We offer a gift-wrap service using recycled materials. I completely believe any business can be ethical, it just needs commitment and an uncompromising attitude.

Q How do you set up a successful business?

A I identified a gap in the market – there was nowhere selling a wide range of natural and organic skincare where customers could get impartial, informed advice and leave with a product that was right for them rather than being right for the day's sale sheet. I have used natural skincare for six years and it is hard to find certain brands unless you shop online so setting up a business that would bring these brands together under one roof made perfect sense. Whilst the setting of the shop looks very exclusive, the prices of our products are completely affordable even for the most tightly managed budget, which is key. We offer a premium experience without the premium price tag.

Q Can your products compete with less environmentally friendly ones?

A Once people have tried natural skincare and seen for themselves how much better it is for the skin, it is virtually impossible to go back to

using chemical skincare. Natural ingredients work in synergy with the skin making it as healthy as it can be. When skin is healthy it positively glows and that, more than anything, is what makes a face look youthful. Sixty per cent of whatever we put on our skin is absorbed into our bloodstream. When the average woman uses up to 20 products a day, the chemicals build up and can lead to all kinds of skin and health problems, some of them serious.

Q How can people be sure they are buying natural skincare?

A The main thing to remember is that the beauty industry is not regulated so brands and retailers can say almost anything and get away with it. Customers need to know which ingredients to look for and which ingredients to avoid. That way, they won't be taken in by spurious advertising claims and end up buying something that doesn't benefit their skin. We're happy to speak to people and advise them if they're unsure – no purchase necessary!

Q Top skincare tip for spring?

A Invest in a good cleanser. Cleansing is the cornerstone of a good skincare regime and if you get this right, you really will be doing your face a huge favour. Getting rid of makeup and general grime from the day is essential if your skin is to detox itself while you are asleep.

Q & A

Jenny Armstrong talks to Niki Pearson, owner of natural beauty shop ecorium in Canterbury, about why organic is best when it comes to caring for your skin and why she is compelled to run a 'green' business

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Police launch spring crackdown on anti-social behaviour. Search 'safer'.



Food for Kent – celebrity chef Richard Phillips gives his backing. Search 'food'.



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See our Go Green – Read It Free On Screen TV commercial. Search 'green'.



Members of Broadstairs' Iaido club show off their skills. Search 'Iaido'.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

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STAY TUNED: Rhys Ifans (left) and Bill Nighy star in *The Boat that Rocked*, based on the exploits of pirate radio DJs who included Roger Gale (above in 1964), now a Tory MP

Pioneering DJs remember 'anarchy' on the high seas

PARTYING and practical jokes to a soundtrack of rock 'n' roll – that's how the pioneering DJs of the Swinging Sixties remember pirate radio.

The latest big screen offering from British director Richard Curtis, *The Boat that Rocked*, set on board an offshore 'pirate' radio station, opens nationwide at cinemas today.

To mark this we spoke to some of the DJs who pushed the boundaries of the law to bring pop music to the masses.

Roger Gale, the Tory MP for Thanet North, BBC Radio Kent presenter Roger Day and BBC Radio 2 presenter Johnny Walker, were among a crew of young men who became 'pirates' of the airwaves in the 60s to challenge the Government's monopoly of radio.

Curtis's film stars Bill Nighy, Rhys Ifans and recent Bond girl Gemma Arterton, who is

■ BY JENNA PUDELEK

from Gravesend, and is based on the story of Radio Caroline which began broadcasting off the coast of the UK in 1964.

Mr Gale, who joined the Radio Caroline DJ team in August of that year, said: "When we were out there for the summer we were jumping off the side of the ship to swim as the records played.

Coastguards

"We would work a fortnight on the boat and have a week off. Huge crowds would welcome us off the boat – lots of girls.

"I was engaged at the time so I did not revel quite as much as others."

In celebration of his birthday, the late night rock show presenter and his co-DJs decided to play a game involving their listeners.

The 'pirate' boats had to stay three miles

away from shore so they were in international waters and not bound by English law.

Mr Gale told how the broadcasters asked all the people in nearby coastal towns to drive down to the beach and flash their headlights.

He said: "The coastguard went berserk. They were good times."

Johnny Walker was a Radio Caroline DJ who was used by Curtis as a consultant for the film.

He said: "Richard has captured the spirit of pirate radio very well in the film. It was anarchy."

His colleague at the Beeb, Roger Day worked at Radio Caroline from 1966-68, he said: "It was the dream job for a 21-year-old. Playing great music and having a laugh."

He told how to fill the time between shows on the ship, the young men would squirt each other with the fire hose and play practical jokes, such as setting the breakfast show team's alarm clocks so that they would wake up five hours too early.

Commission slams KCC for not heeding Icelandic warnings

KENT County Council has been accused of negligence by putting millions of pounds of our money into Icelandic banks days before the system collapsed last year.

KCC was one of seven English councils slammed in a report by spending watchdog the Audit Commission on Thursday, because the council carried on paying cash into the doomed Iceland banking system, despite warnings they were in trouble.

The commission revealed KCC paid in £8.3 million in early October, just days after a warning on September 30 that one bank's credit rating had fallen. On October 7, the Icelandic banking system collapsed completely.

The county council – which is believed to have lost £50m in the collapse – maintains it had been open about its conduct and hoped to get the cash back. But the fate of the £954m deposited by councils and other public bodies in Icelandic banks remains uncertain.

There is no British government protection for institutions as there is for individuals.

Handful

The Audit Commission said most councils had "heeded warnings" about the declining credit worthiness of Icelandic banks during 2008, and had acted.

However, it said that some had ignored the risks while a handful, including KCC, had behaved "negligently".

The collapse has highlighted the "variable standards" within finance at different councils across England and Wales.

"Good treasury managers recognised those risks and managed them appropriately," said an Audit Commission spokesman.

"Others either did not appreciate the risks or underestimated their significance."

KCC cabinet member for finance Nick Chard told the BBC: "The position and language used by the Audit Commission is quite extraordinary. It really is a case of the pot calling the kettle black. I find this a convenient smokescreen for the Audit Commission, which has twice the level of exposure in Icelandic banks that Kent County Council has."



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Push the boat out on fish trail

■ BY CHRIS BRITCHER

CAST your net far and wide to experience the bounty of our seas as a new fish trail is launched.

Local produce supporters Produced in Kent have unveiled the Soul to Sole Fish Trail, highlighting the wealth of seafood and its integral role the industry has played in the history of our communities.

Available online and in tourist offices across the county, the trail includes regional farm shops, fishmongers and fish restaurants, while highlighting the fascinating story behind the and the impact the industry has had on our coastline.

It also hopes to highlight the health benefits of eating fish, while reinforcing the message of our campaign to demand locally produced, locally sourced food and drink.

The trail guide also addresses the important concerns of fish sustainability and outlines Kent's environmentally responsible small day-boat fishing policy in the Channel.

As Julie Monkman, manager at Produced in Kent, explains: "While consumers

have grasped the health benefits of eating more fish, there are many environmentally conscientious consumers who have concerns about consuming fish from depleted stocks.

"The good news about the fishing industry in Kent is fishermen tend to work with small day-boats in Kent's waters, rather than with



SEAFOOD GUIDE: Definitely worth coming out of your shell for Kent's finest oysters

the damaging deep net fishing.

"The trail guide has provided a powerful mouthpiece for us to communicate this information to the increasing numbers of consumers who want to be environmentally responsible and prefer to consume naturally-occurring, native fish stocks."

Among the many places featured are the likes of top restaurants

Coastguard pub at St Margaret's Bay to the Mulberry Tree in Boughton Monchelsea – winner of the recent best restaurant prize at the Produced in Kent awards night. There are walks, too, including a stunning circular stroll along the famous white cliffs at Dover, taking walkers around Kingsdown and

starting and finishing at Walmer Castle. Fans of social history can even learn how the great British dish of fish and chips has developed and evolved over the centuries. And if you want to know how to buy and prepare fish, there is information on that, too – plus a

special introduction to how to get fish into your diet if you've yet to take the plunge.

Ms Monkman said: "The health benefits of eating more fish, and oily fish in particular, are undisputed.

"Recent findings have shown benefits for improved concentration, brain development and managing hyperactivity in children, while there has been a very positive link between preventing many of the major diseases in older people.

"Rather than banging the health drum, this guide has quite literally been designed to put the soul back into eating more regionally sourced fish, with a thoroughly practical and useful guide on where to buy and eat the best fish in Kent."

The trail follows in the wake of four other successful published trails from Produced in Kent, including Sheep Ahoy, Apple Source, Red, White & Brut wine and vineyard trail and Hops and Downs.



Ten per cent off – and there is a catch ...

TO COINCIDE with the launch of the Produced in Kent fish trail, our one-stop online store packed with all the best local food and drink is offering a special money-saving deal.

Foodforkent.co.uk is cutting ten per cent off the price of all fish on the site until Good Friday.

The deal is yet another spearheaded by local producers keen to pass on the best deals and best value to the customers closest to their hearts – those in Kent. Check out the savings for yourself – log-on to www.foodforkent.co.uk.

The site is backed by a host of the leading local producers and suppliers.



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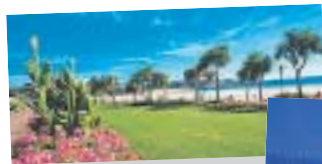
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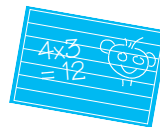


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BREAK TIME

MP taught lesson on environment

SITTINGBOURNE and Sheppey MP Derek Wyatt recently visited St Peter's Catholic Primary School in West Ridge to talk to pupils.

He spoke to year five students about global warming and reducing their carbon footprint. The school's event is linked to a project which started more than 35 years ago.

Environment Day was founded in 1972 by the United Nations General Assembly. It is commemorated every year on June 5.

The aim is to increase awareness of environmental issues on a global scale, and to promote and encourage action that can be taken to safeguard the planet's future.

Events are organised to celebrate the day, from recycling campaigns to bicycle rallies. Schools can get involved in many ways, including essay and poster competitions and tree planting.

Pupils transport audience down under to 18th century

A STRONG ensemble cast tackled some challenging issues for two performances of "Our Country's Good" at Borden Grammar School.

Enthusiastic audiences were fully appreciative of the efforts the cast and crew put into the production at the Sittingbourne school, which has an excellent reputation for dramatic art.

The play by Timberlake Wertenbaker is set in an Australian penal colony in 1788, and explores the challenge of building a community between people of different ages, background and beliefs.

While some of the British officers believe that the convicts are innately bad people who can never be reformed, others attempt to elevate their damaged lives by putting on a play through which they can take pleasure in work-

■ BY NICK AMES

ing together and accessing a richer cultural experience.

The "play within a play" theme was one which was actively explored by the cast.

The enthusiasm of the Borden student actors, supported by five girls from Highsted Grammar School who took the part of the female convicts, was evident throughout and the cast skilfully transported the audience to the brutal environment of 18th century Australia.

Teacher Rachel Apsley, who directed the production, was delighted with the students' commitment and passion for the play, which is a text also taught in A level English at Borden.

"Their hard work and dedication was remarkable," she said, "and we were very lucky to have such a large and capable group



GOOD CAST: Borden and Highsted Grammar actors

of actors in the school, prepared to take on some very demanding roles."

Sixth form students studying the text for A level were among the audience over the two nights, as were a large number of Year 10 students who are taking part in a review writing competition from their experience of seeing the play.

SEND your schools news and pictures to yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk

GO WILD THIS EASTER!

AT HOWLETTS & PORT LYMPNE

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7th, 9th, 14th & 16th April 2009

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Easter Egg Challenge

10th to 13th April 2009

Navigate your way around Howletts or Port Lympne with a souvenir map, collecting animal names to complete your challenge and claim your reward!

Prices for both events includes entry to the park.

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yourswaleblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in Swale...

Come and see the wealth of wildlife on offer in our seas

LAST weekend I stood somewhere on the north Kent coastline between Faversham and Whitstable and stared out to sea.

With a pair of half-reasonable binoculars I looked in the Thames Estuary and feasted my eyes on a herd of seals, enjoying the spring sunshine on a mud bank. Now, I'm not easily impressed, but to see these creatures so close to our shores was a quite wonderful sight.

For years I remained convinced the best thing we could hope for in the seas that surround us was the occasional jellyfish or an oil can. I was led to believe fish existed somewhere out there, but I'd never spotted them.

What's more, a cross-Channel ferry ride was never an opportunity to watch whales blasting jets of water in the air, or shoals of tuna dart just under the clear water's surface. You could, instead, simply see the occasional rival ferry making the return journey or, if you were lucky, the occasional bit of freight.

I remember going to Scotland a few years ago and being excited at the prospect of the wildlife which lurked off its rugged coastline. The north west promised a selection of whales, basking sharks, dolphins and the such like.

I saw some seals, but my desperation to see a dolphin doing, well, dolphin things, in their natural habitat came to precisely nothing, despite going to the Moray Firth where apparently you should be knee deep in the things.

I returned home just a tad disappointed if truth be known. But it was back in Kent where my demands for exciting wildlife were delivered. The last place I expected it to be.

About a month after the holiday I finally decided to go to Folkestone and see if I could spot Dave the cross-dressing Dolphin (well, I ask you, calling himself Dave when he was a girl). Having spent hours on a chilly Scottish hilltop peering out in a doomed effort to see the animal, I spotted Dave before I'd even got out of the car. There he/she was. Conveniently swimming about next to a car park.

I got out and watched him swim and splash for ages. He even disappeared up the coast for a few moments. I followed and was treated to a sight which will last with me forever, of a dolphin jumping and spinning just yards from our coastline. It was truly magical.

And now I've seen seals too. At this rate, I'm pretty confident a killer whale will pop his black and white head out to greet me next time I pop down to Whitstable harbour.

So what's the point of this, I hear you cry? Well the point is that there is a remarkable wealth of wildlife off our coast – right here in Kent – and it is easy to forget that, and dismiss it, as we splash out on trips elsewhere.

Perhaps, just perhaps, if you're pondering whether or not to holiday in these recession-hit times, you could consider staying in Kent. And just think of what you'll save on petrol.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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Write to The Editor, Yourswale, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

Join the family fun

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3. **EASTER PARTIES** at 'The Place to Eat' restaurant John Lewis
4. **Easter Activities** at Carluccio's restaurant
5. **EASTER HUNTS** at Build-A-Bear Workshop
6. **Family Films** at Showcase Cinema in the Water Circus
7. **BALLOON MODELLING** at Ed's Easy Diner
8. **Lindt's famous Gold Bunny** comes to Bluewater
9. **FREE ENTERTAINMENT!** SEE CREEPY CRAWLIES UP CLOSE AND MEET BOWLING BUDDIES BUMPER & SQUEAK at Bluewater
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*The Cinema and selected restaurants and bars will be open on Easter Sunday, check www.bluewater.co.uk for more details.

Visit www.bluewater.co.uk for further details and more ideas for family fun this Easter.

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yourswalemusic

The Farmhouse is jazzing it up with worldwide talent

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

CHICAGO-born saxophonist Matana Roberts will play at The Farmhouse this weekend – kick-starting the Canterbury venue's monthly International Jazz Sundays event.

The acclaimed jazz star will take to the stage at 4pm on Sunday, one of just five UK tour dates she will play this year.

International Jazz Sundays will be held on the first Sunday of every month, featuring, as the name implies, a non-England-based jazz act.

The three remaining weekends of the month have also been catered for.

The Farmhouse's Matt Gough said: "Other monthly Sundays starting in April include The Farmhouse Thriftstore Sundays, with food stalls from local producers and local clothes/record shops taking place on the second Sunday of every month.

"Rockabilly Sundays will take place every third Sunday and Ska/Reggae Sundays will be held on the fourth Sunday of every month."

The rolling super Sundays line-up has been organised in conjunction with the venue's Sunday roast menu.

Lunch is served from noon to 5pm, with a two-course meal costing just £12. A third course can be added for an additional £3.

My personal picks from the menu include the hare on toast starter (£4.75), traditional roast beef, Yorkshire pudding and horseradish main (£9) and chocolate brownie (£5) or



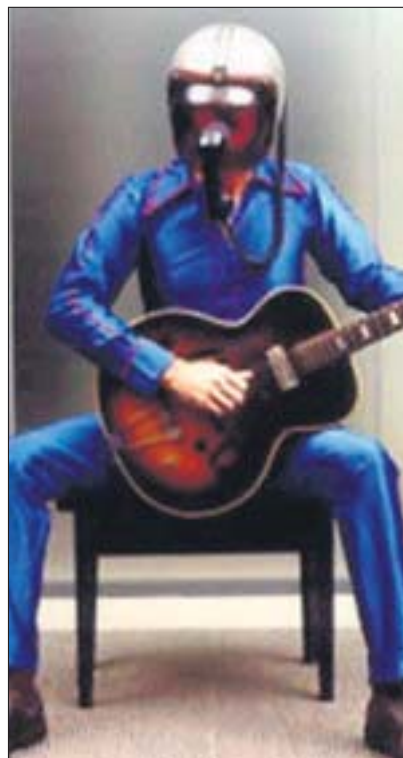
English farmhouse cheeses with biscuits and chutney (£5) for dessert.

Back to the music, The Farmhouse has three nights of live performances lined up in the coming weeks, starting with one-man-band Bob Log III on Thursday.

The man is a cannonball-suit, motorbike helmet-wearing slide-guitar genius. He's the best in the world at what he does, if only taking that title by virtue of the fact that he is the only person in the world who does what he does.

Next up is Canadian husband-and-wife duo Handsome Furs on Thursday, April 9, and instrumentalists Holy F*** on Saturday, May 9.

For more details on the food and music line-up, visit www.thefarmhousecanterbury.co.uk.



IT'S JAZZ: Chicago-born saxophonist Matana Roberts (left) will play at The Farmhouse, along with motorbike helmet-wearing slide-guitar genius Bob Log II (above)

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WIN a delicious chocolate treat

THIS Easter at Bluewater, the iconic Lindt Gold Bunny will be hosting a series of enchanting events to entertain the whole family and raise funds for London's Great Ormond Street Hospital children's charity.

The money will be used to build further family accommodation to allow parents to stay near their children while they have treatment.

The Lindt Gold Bunny extravaganza will be appearing in the Rose Gallery between April 4-11, bringing magical delights and chocolate surprises with it.

In addition to Master Chocolatiers

on stilts and colouring activities for the children, there will be lots of chocolate Gold Bunny treats for kids and their parents who choose to have their faces painted!

So head down to Bluewater this Easter holiday, indulge in some family fun and delicious chocolate and help the Lindt Gold Bunny spread a little magic.

To celebrate these springtime festivities the Lindt Gold Bunny has teamed up with KOS Media – publisher of this newspaper – to offer six lucky readers the opportunity to win £50 of delicious Easter treats, including a 1kg Lindt Gold Bunny, a 200g Lindt Gold Bunny, a Lindt Gold Bunny Easter Egg and a selection of Lindor-filled eggs.

To enter, simply answer the ques-

tion here and send your entry on a postcard, along with your email address (if applicable), name, address and daytime telephone number to Lindt Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is April 9, 2009.

Question: Where in Bluewater will the Lindt Gold Bunny be appearing?

No purchase necessary. For our full terms and conditions, see www.kentnews.co.uk, or phone 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature, please write 'no literature' on your entry.

For more information on the partnership between Lindt Gold Bunny and Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity this Easter, visit www.gosh.org/GoldBunny.



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TALK TIME

TOM RANSLEY

Ex-Kings School pupil and Cambridge oarsman Tom Ransley answers Jenny Armstrong's questions about his place in this year's Boat Race



How much work went into preparing for the Boat Race?

We'd been in training for it since September when a large group of potential oarsmen and coxes first came together to try to win a seat in the Blue Boat. Every day we did two training sessions of around two hours each: it's usually made up of a mixture of weights, rowing machine sessions and being out on the water. We also get advice on diet and psychology.

How did you get a place with Cambridge?

Obviously you have to be a student at Cambridge but each person is selected by the coach based on how he (or she) fits into the crew. The squad has been slowly reduced since last September and after all the training, I was delighted to have been selected.

How did you learn to row?

When I was 15 I started rowing at school. I was helped along the way by the coaches at King's Canterbury who really encouraged me to reach my potential especially Rory Reilly, Andy Turner and Stephen Graham. I rowed at York and was selected for the Blue Boat last year. Every day we're learning new things and learning how to improve as a crew.

Are you going to row in the Olympic?

I'm going to trial for the Olympics – of course it would be great if I was selected.

YOUR LETTERS



Finally we have someone to lead us

At last. The news in your paper last week that we have finally appointed a new chief executive is surely something to celebrate?

Swale has been rudderless for too long and as a result has sailed into the recession without an apparent structure of how to steer through the troubled waters and emerge on the other side. At least, that is the impression given the disruption at the top of the authority's pyramid of power.

I just hope Mr Kara can now assert his authority and bring Swale kicking and screaming into a new era.

F Grundy
Oare

Hopefully the chief won't overlook us

I wonder just how much attention Faversham will receive under our new chief executive? It



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We will include the best on these pages too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourswale before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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seems to me we are the forgotten twin of Sittingbourne and the west of the borough.

Yet we are, without doubt, the more beautiful area, and a more attractive proposition for people to live and work.

I do hope they get it right or else we face the real risk of calls once more for us to move under Canterbury control and opt out of Swale.

Tony Ryan
Faversham

Perhaps now we can be set free?

The arrival of a new man at the top is hardly worth celebrating in Faversham, unless he can negotiate for us to shift authorities.

I am not alone in believing we are all far closer to Canterbury in both attitudes and aspirations. What's more I suspect 90 per cent, if travelling outside Faversham to shop, do so in Canterbury, not Sittingbourne.

Perhaps now is the time to ask Abdool Kara if he can liberate us from the Swale shackles?

Mrs T Smith
Faversham

Nothing's likely to change anyway

So we have a new council chief. The question is, will we notice the difference?

After the embarrassment of the Mark Bilsborough business, I wonder if the best thing we can all hope for is that the powers-that-be stay out of the headlines from now on and just concentrate on making Swale – Faversham in particular – a better place.

Kay Butcher
By email

Aussie's checking out the opposition

Yet again Kent Cricket Club has shown its contempt for our national side. Not content with packing the side last year with players who not qualified to play for England, they are giving

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Stuart Clark the chance to prove his form ahead of the Ashes series.

What more could an Australian fast bowler recovering from injury want than a chance to acclimatise himself with some experience in county cricket so he can get the feel of the wickets and the opposition.

Can you imagine an Australian team giving an English player the same sort of opportunity?

Harry Chaplain,
by email

We need a healthy new player instead

Kent's decision to employ the services of Aussie cricketer Stuart Clark is wrong on many levels.

One of the main ones is his fitness. What is the point in engaging an overseas player recovering from injury? He is likely to break down again and leave the county out of pocket and a player down. And he is only available for a short period. Why not pick someone who's fully fit and can dedicate himself for a whole season? Players in the past have done so, why can't they now?

David Knight,
by email

Why should county think of England?

Why all the fuss about Stuart Clark signing for Kent?

The county has no duty to help the England side. When have the national selectors done us any favours? Players such as Geraint Jones have been ruined by England rather than have their games improved.

Ian Proctor,
by email

Open toilet scheme an excellent idea

Plans revealed in parts of the county to allow people to use toilet facilities in pubs and restaurants for a small fee have got to be welcomed.

The reason giving for shutting the doors of many loos is that they become a place where drug users congregate. Well they will not be able to do so easily in pubs or eating places so there is no excuse for not allowing the scheme.

Just don't take a table near the gent or ladies if you are enjoying a meal or a drink

Michael Cumberland
By email

Pension variations are all wrong

Isn't there a stark contrast between the way the Gurkhas have been treated over their pension claims and the way the bankers have been paid their bonuses?

On the one hand we have a group of men who are prepared to lay

down the lives for this country and on the other we have a group of men who have bankrupted the Western world.

One group shows selflessness, determination, quiet pride and heroism. The other exhibits selfishness, greed, arrogance and cowardice. No prizes for guessing which group is rewarded by the Government with huge amounts of cash.

Paula Firbank,
by email

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British Heart Foundation (BHF) Shops are appealing to people in Kent to donate unwanted clothing, handbags, shoes, books, DVDs, CDs and bric-a-brac – all of which will help the charity fight heart disease, the UK's single biggest killer.

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To find your nearest BHF Shop please call 0844 412 5000.

Ken Blair
Chief executive,
British Heart Foundation shops

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Gary Moore is bad for you baby on his latest tour

GARY MOORE

Thursday, April 16
Leas Cliff Hall, FolkestoneLEGENDARY guitarist
Gary Moore starts his new
live tour in Folkestone later
this month.

Considered one of the greatest guitarists the British Isles has ever produced, Moore has appeared in the line-ups of several notable rock bands and enjoyed a highly successful solo career.

His latest album, Bad For You Baby, demonstrates the extraordinary talent that has kept Moore at the forefront of blues music during a career that spans five decades.

Born in Belfast in 1952, Moore was of the generation of music fans who fell in love with rock'n'roll when Elvis Presley and then The Beatles came along.

But when he saw acts like Jimi Hendrix and John Mayall's Bluesbreakers performing in his home-town in the mid-60s, it opened up a whole new world for the young music-lover.

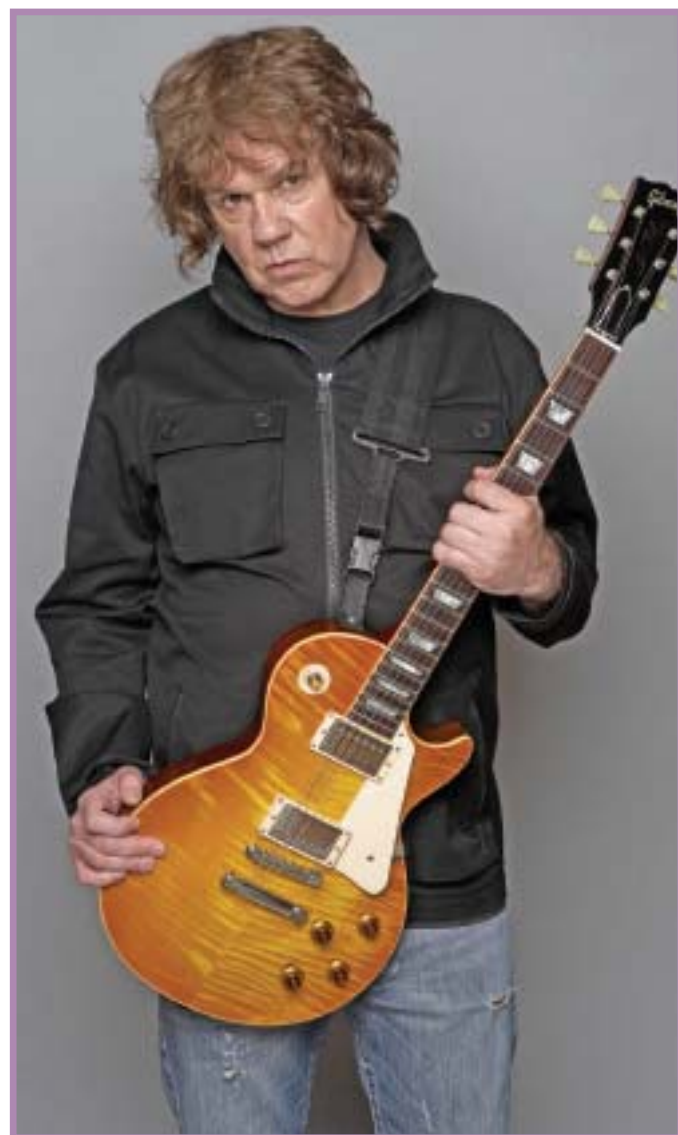
His passion and latent talent for the blues increased when he heard the guitar-playing of musicians like Peter Green, who would later become Moore's mentor.

Soon considered a teenage prodigy under Green's guidance, Moore later paid tribute to his hero by naming his 1995 album Blues For Greeny.

Moore secured his first record deal in 1970 with the power trio Skid Row. Shortly before the deal was signed, Moore had moved to Dublin and met Phil Lynott, who had filled in as vocalist. Moore released three albums with Skid Row and toured the US as support act to bands such as The Allman Brothers Band and Mountain.

Despite embarking on a solo career, he soon found himself drawn back into a band when Lynott invited him to join Thin Lizzy as Eric Bell's replacement. He was with the band only briefly but returned after Brian Robertson left in 1977 and again for the Black Rose tour the following year.

Exactly 30 years ago, Moore's solo career really got under way with the single Parisienne Walkways, which reached the Top 10 in April, 1979. It was followed by a successful album, Back On The Streets, and he spent the late 70s and early 80s restlessly



Picture SAM SCOTTHUNTER

TALENTED: Gary Moore's legendary music career spans almost 40 years

pursuing the highest quality of music.

In 1985 he reunited with Lynott for the hit single Out In The Fields and followed it with the Wild Frontier album, an exploration of his Celtic roots. But it was his 1990 album Still Got The Blues that really saw Moore's creativity set free. The next album featured cameo appearances by blues greats such as Albert King, BB King and Albert Collins, with Moore making his mark even in this

hallowed company. In 2006 he delighted Thin Lizzy fans by reuniting with the band for a one-off concert in Dublin.

Moore has continued to experiment with his music and keep fans guessing, but one thing they can be sure of is that he will always be an exceptional talent.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £21/£19. To book, call 0844 8471776, or visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.



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FAVERSHAM FOLK CLUB

Saturday, April 4
St Mary of Charity Church,
Faversham



FAVERSHAM Folk Club celebrates its 40th birthday in style this weekend with a very special concert.

For the last four decades, the club has been showcasing the best of both traditional and contemporary styles, blues, poetry and storytelling. Meeting at the Chimney Boy in Preston Street every Wednesday, the club offers both high quality folk acts and singers' nights, where people can simply enjoy a good singalong.

Saturday's celebration will include a performance by the Copper Family from Sussex, who have been described as the backbone of the English musical tradition and can trace their roots back to the



late 1500s. Their unique style of harmony singing has earned them a strong following around the world and put their songs at the heart of the modern folk repertoire. The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £13.

Next Wednesday at

8.30pm, the club will be holding a Grand Singaround for anyone who would like to join in with a song, tune, dance or recitation or just be part of the fun. Admission costs £1.

To book tickets for either event call 07980 203992.

CAN ANY MOTHER HELP ME?

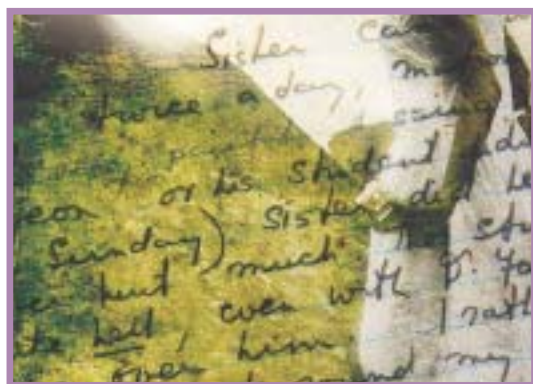
Friday, April 3
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



LONG before the internet, a desperate young woman created a remarkable virtual community.

The true story of the Cooperative Correspondence Club, or CCC, is told in a new play by Foursight Theatre, called Can Any Mother Help Me? Inspired by Jenna Bailey's book, the play explores the connections made between desperate housewives back in the 30s.

In 1935 a lonely young Irish woman was living alone in a village with her four children, having been abandoned by her husband. Starved of adult company, she wrote to The Nursery World magazine under the pen name Ubique and asked



plaintively "Can any mother help me?"

The response led to the formation of the CCC, a group of 24 young mothers who provided much needed support for each other, transforming the lives of isolated women throughout the country. This touching and funny play uses the women's fasci-

nating writing to shed light on social, cultural, historical and moral 20th century events, all told from personal perspectives.

The performance, which is for over-13s, is at 7.45pm and tickets cost £13.70/£11.80. To book call 01227 769075 or visit www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.

THE NOISE NEXT DOOR

Wednesday, April 8
Orange Street Music Club,
Canterbury



ANYTHING could happen when The Noise Next Door returns to Orange Street.

The improvisation group's monthly appearances at the venue have proved a massive success, with last month's show attracting a full house. With their amazing ability to transform audience suggestions into hilarious scenes, songs and scenarios, the former University of Kent students have been making a big noise on the comedy scene. Crazy characters, witty one-liners and hilariously physical comedy explode out of nowhere to take audiences by storm.

The Noise Next Door also enjoys sell-out monthly shows in Brighton, Hove and



Shoreham, following their huge success at the Brighton and Edinburgh Fringe festivals last year. Wider and wider audiences are beginning to feel the noise as the group has supported big comedy stars such as Harry Hill, Ed Byrne and Shazia Mirza.

Having just reached the semi final of the Laughing Horse New Act of the Year competition, due to be held later this month, the group's star is continuing to rise.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £8/£6 on the door. Find out more at www.thenoisnextdoor.co.uk.

SWALE LEISURE

Historic venue a great setting for live music

JAZZ fans can enjoy an evening of live music in a cosy 13th century inn tonight.

Derek & Friends will be providing the entertainment at the Plough Inn in Lewson Street, Norton, this evening.

To find out more about the pub, visit the website at www.theploughinn.biz or call 01795 521348.

Breakthru in blues is sure to get you rocking

GET ready to rock when Breakthru performs at a pub in Hernhill this weekend.

The band will be performing a variety of rock and blues covers at the Three Horseshoes in Staplestreet on Saturday. The gig starts at 8.30pm.

For more information about the venue call the pub on 01227 750842.

Choirs come together to raise cathedral cash

TWO hundred singers will lift their voices in support of the Save Canterbury Cathedral Appeal this Sunday.

Choirs and choral societies from across Kent are paying to rehearse under the direction of Dr David Flood, organist and Master of the Choristers, at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £10/£8 and free for under-12s with an adult, call 01227 464764 or visit the appeal office in BURGATE.

Contemporary gallery opens up for artists

ARTISTS across Kent are invited to take part in a new exhibition in the Turner Contemporary Project Space in Margate.

Entrants can submit up to eight works for consideration by a panel of arts professionals. Turner Contemporary Open will run from June 27 to September 6.

The closing date is Friday. For conditions of entry and a submissions form visit www.turnercontemporary.org.

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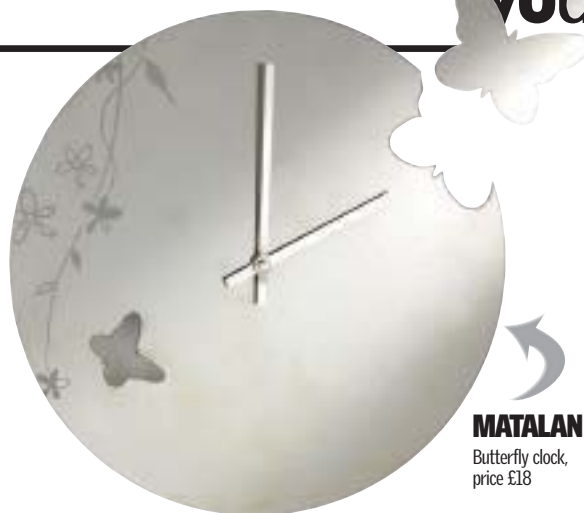


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SWALE SHOPPING

Guides open up a host of great attractions

THE prospect of entertaining children over the Easter holidays can be daunting, but a new leisure guide could help.

Let's Go With The Children contains information about a wealth of little-known attractions and beautiful country spots in the area. The handbag-sized book comes in 14 regional editions and readers can also take advantage of £100-worth of discount vouchers.

Priced at £3.75, guides are available from supermarkets and bookstores.

Snap up some discount cosmetics from Lloyds

BEAUTY does not have to suffer during the credit crunch with Lloyds Pharmacy's April promotions.

The chemist chain is offering reductions on a range of products from cosmetics to men's grooming until April 24. Max Factor False Lash Effect Mascara is reduced to £7.99, snap up a First Alert carbon monoxide alarm at £12.99 and enjoy buy one get one free offers on selected sun care. Find your nearest store at www.lloydspharmacy.com.

Enjoy some happy eggs laid by happy chickens

ENJOY free range eggs laid by cheerful chickens from the Happy Egg Co.

The company says it accepts only the highest standards of animal welfare for its chickens, with lots of green pasture to roam and activities to stimulate them. Experts in hen husbandry make regular visits to the farms to check standards.

The Happy Egg Co eggs are available from supermarkets, priced from £1.58 for six. Find out more at www.thehappyegg.co.uk.

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A quantum of action to keep you entertained

BOND is back on the small screen with the release of his latest outing – the Quantum of Solace.

The blockbuster is now available on DVD or for high-definition fans, there's a Blu-ray version too.

The movie picks up where Daniel Craig's first movie as the super-spy ended. It sees James Bond seek revenge for the death of his lover, Vesper Lynd, and features all the high-speed thrills we have come to expect from 007.

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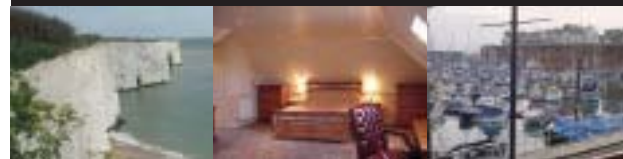
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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

THE SIMPSONS
Sky 1, 6pm, Sunday
AMERICAN IDOL
ITV 2, 8pm, Thursday

WHAT in the name of all that's good and holy has happened to The Simpsons in recent years?

I caught one of the latest episodes last weekend and was shocked by how bad it was.

For what was once essential viewing, it has ventured into the realm of self-congratulatory, back-slapping, must-avoid viewing.

Matt really must be Groening.

What used to be so joyful about this TV monster was the subtle touches and understated jokes that ran alongside the more slapstick stuff that appealed to the younger viewers.

It was a real family show in every sense of the word and wasn't just about the Simpsons, but also the community of a dumb suburban town.

Now though it really only focuses on Homer, seemingly the only character anyone seems to care about – and that's a crying shame.

Rarely has a show fallen from grace so badly – and don't get me started on the over-indulgent plot-free movie.

I hope the creators call time on this sooner rather than later before the reputation is further tarnished, but while it's still making money on such a grand scale it's hard to see.

The latest episodes always air on Sky, before Channel 4 set about flogging them to death until you, me and our children's children have shuffled off this mortal coil once and for all.

What was once America's favourite show has long since been surpassed in the ratings by the likes of American Idol.

Season eight is now in full shmultz – sorry – swing, on ITV 2 on Thursdays.



OFF KEY: Cult cartoon series The Simpsons has lost the appeal that made it a worldwide smash

Simon Cowell's strangle-hold on the music charts is even more in effect there as it is here.

While he has unleashed Leona Lewis and co on our national consciousness, the king of the centre-parted flat-top conducts another reign of terror across the Atlantic.

Have you ever heard of Taylor Hicks, Clay Aiken, Jordin Sparks, Chri Daughtry or Carrie Underwood?

I'm guessing that unless you're a devotee of this show then probably not.

Well, in America these are big names peddling a brand of middle-of-the-road mayhem into the hearts and minds of an already misguided nation.

Far more of the runners-up and rejects go on to have astonishingly big careers than here and you must wonder if, really, we have got off lightly with the annual X Factor circus.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)
SOMEONE may ask you to teach a class or write a book. Seize this opportunity immediately. Although it may not pay very much, it could lead to bigger and better things. A person who has been badmouthing you may hurt your reputation. Let your actions speak for themselves.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)
IT MAY be best to keep your thoughts to yourself right now. An overbearing expert is wearing on your patience. It's better to keep a respectful silence. In time, they will make a miscalculation. When that happens, you'll be able to point to their arrogant incompetence.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)
ALTHOUGH you're fond of familiar comforts, it does pay to expand your horizons. Don't expect your colleagues to take much of an interest in your activities. If people suspect you are getting restless, they may try to hold you back. Keep your public and professional lives separate.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)
IT'S important to check and double-check your work this week. A small mistake could be disastrous. A medical consultation could bring welcome relief from a nagging ache or pain. If you're looking for a job, this would be a good time to make the round of employment agencies.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)
THIS is a good time to spend money on travel, education and technical gadgets. Although you're not very materialistic, you do enjoy the occasional splurge. By putting your resources toward things that will expand your consciousness, you'll get a huge return on your investment.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 21)
YOUR social life takes off like a rocket. Making the rounds of parties will be a pleasant diversion. You're sick and tired of being buried at work. Delegate smaller responsibilities to colleagues. Doing everybody else's job will ultimately take a toll on your health.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)
IF you're struggling with a debt it's time to make a deal. Consolidate your bills and negotiate a lower repayment rate. If you stand your ground, you could even hammer out an agreement that allows you to pay off only the principle. These days, people are anxious for cash.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)
YOUR upbeat mood will delight some and annoy others. Try to recognise the difference. If a youngster or lover is depressed you can lift their spirits with kindness and a well-timed sense of humour. If you're looking for love, think about joining an internet dating site.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)
A BRIGHT idea could win you some great publicity. This is definitely the time to promote your agenda. An intimidating authority figure may try to block your way. Luckily, the rest of the group will rally to your side. Continue to hold your ground. A female ally will be helpful now.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)
CAREER matters are highlighted this week. If an executive leaves his position, be prepared to step in. Although you may be scared about taking this risk, it will pay off. It's all a matter of having faith in your natural leadership ability. Pay no attention to rivals.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)
THERE'S never been a better week to sign a contract. Entering into a business partnership is also favoured. A jealous relative could try to cause trouble. Don't waste valuable time trying to deflect their attacks when you could be crafting amazing deals.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)
YOU may be thinking of moving. Maybe your current place is too far away from your job. It's even possible you're depressed by your surroundings. Take things slowly. Make a list of what you would like in a community. The more clarity you have the easier it is to find the perfect home.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

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June 9 to 20 & Sept 7 to 18, 2009

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EASY

7		1		9		2	5	
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	9	5	7	1		6		8
7		3		8	4	5	1	
4	8			9	1		5	
5		2	4	6	7			
6	1		2		8		7	

MEDIUM

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			6			8		
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HARD

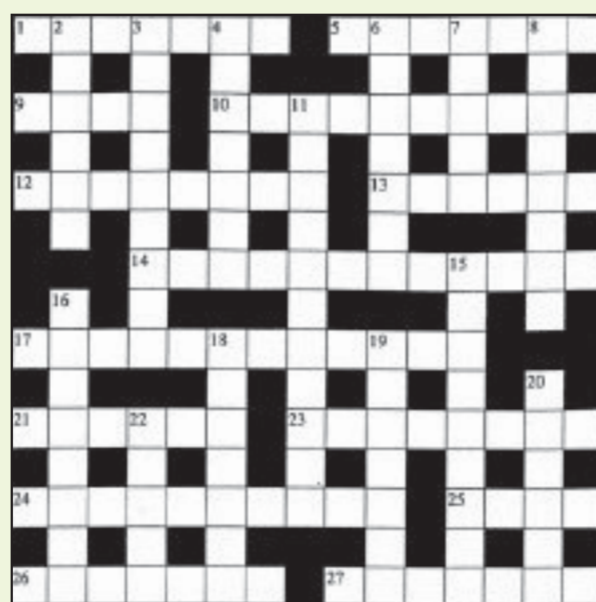
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4				5			6	
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CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Send up symbol on elevated advertising board (3-4)
5 Reprimand William on holiday (4,3)
9 United Kingdom sailor returning capital (4)
10 Delay - on this bridge? (10)
12 Type of radioactive waste bird found in a horizontal position (3-5)
13 The first Christian perhaps (6)
14 War of the century (7,5)
17 Light charmed object able to grant all one's desires (8,4)
21 I do icy manoeuvre that's stupidity (6)
23 Did some relief work (8)
24 Violent rat damaged respirator (10)
25 After half-time, the sound of snoring in state of nervous agitation (4)
26 Fashionable spot that's properly sited (2,5)
27 Dray he and I organised for pleasure journey at farm (7)
DOWN
2 Hooter of ox with lank disposition (6)
3 Suppressed initial question in revised schedule (9)
4 So vegan cooked using this? (3,4)
6 Evicted, sad being leaderless (7)
7 Yarn from Long Island (5)
8 Having extremities that are tired having a chilblain perhaps (8)
11 Less perfect development of personal pride (4-7)
15 Interpreter formerly to assume it to be true alternatively (9)
16 Heavy stick used to strike repeatedly (8)
18 Poem I see reportedly blissful (7)
19 A former prince first in Canada (7)
20 Caught topless Liz among the fruit (6)
22 Some concoct allocation based on the number eight (5)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Flaw (7)
5 Smoker's receptacle (7)
9 Engrave (4)
10 Of external origin (10)
12 Office worker's rank (8)
13 Accuse (6)
14 Area of authority (12)
17 Cheerful (5-7)
21 Oral (6)
23 Type of Indian cooking (8)
24 Showman (10)
25 Dimensions (4)
26 They are without a like (7)
27 Engaging in sport (7)

DOWN

- 2 Tiny (6)
3 Indian prince (9)
4 Slim (7)
6 Bantu (7)
7 Fashion (5)
8 Capital of Paraguay (8)
11 Cap (3-1-7)
15 Monotonously (9)
16 Tennis official (8)
18 Roman Catholic bishopric of Rome (4,3)
19 Food wrapping sheets (7)
20 Iced (6)
22 Roasting framework (abbrev.) (3-1-1)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No79

EASY

1	5	2	3	4	9	8	6	7
9	7	4	8	2	6	1	5	3
3	6	5	7	1	9	2	4	
2	9	1	7	6	3	5	4	8
3	8	6	4	1	2	6	7	9
6	4	7	9	8	5	2	3	1
5	1	9	2	3	4	7	8	6
7	2	3	6	9	8	4	1	5
4	6	8	1	5	7	3	9	2

MEDIUM

2	1	4	3	8	9	7	5	6
8	6	5	4	7	1	3	9	2
3	7	9	2	5	6	4	8	1
1	4	8	9	2	7	6	3	5
7	5	2	1	6	3	9	4	8
6	9	3	8	4	5	1	2	7
9	3	7	5	1	2	8	6	4
4	2	6	7	3	8	5	1	9
5	6	1	8	9	4	2	7	3

HARD

4	5	3	6	8	2	9	1	7
9	1	2	4	7	5	8	3	6
8	7	6	9	3	1	5	2	4
5	8	9	7	2	6	3	4	1
7	2	4	3	1	8	6	9	5
8	3	1	5	4	9	2	7	6
3	6	5	1	9	7	4	8	2
1	9	8	2	5	4	7	6	3
2	4	7	8	6	3	1	5	9

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No79

ACROSS: 1 Over-the-top 7 Quip 9 Festival 10 Ice age 11 Rattletrap 14 Labourer 15 Yeovil 16 Sponge 18 Entreaty 20 Relaxation 23 Grotto 24 Regarded 25 Dyke 26 Rampageous. **DOWN:** 2 View 3 Ruth 4 Hoverer 5 Telstar 6 Paisley 7 Questioner 8 Ingratiate 12 Dapple-grey 13 Join battle 17 Enamour 18 Epigram 19 Tanagra 21 Free 22 Zebu.

QUICK SOLUTION No80

22 Bar-b-q. Linesman 18 Holy See 19 Tinfoil 20 Frozen 11 Tam-o'-Shanter 15 Tediously 16 4 Slender 6 Swahili 7 Trend 8 Assumption 27 Playing. **DOWN:** 2 Little 3 Mahatma 17 Jurisdiction 24 Impresario 25 Size 26 Uniques Extraneous 12 Clerkship 13 Indict 14 1 Blenheim 5 Ashby 9 Etch 10

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

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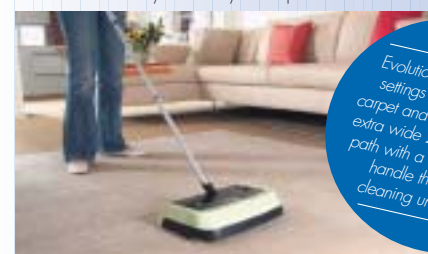
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Evolution II manual carpet sweeper

A must have for every home Ewbank have been producing non-electric carpet sweepers for over a century and their products are still regarded as the best in the world.

This Evolution II manual carpet sweeper is no exception. Just as you would expect, it is lightweight and easy to use. It needs no electricity and is an easy and convenient way to clean your carpets and floors at a moment's notice.



Evolution II has two height settings for cleaning both carpet and hard floors and an extra wide 23.5cm sweeping path with a long coated steel handle that lies flat for cleaning under furniture.

The long life natural bristle brush efficiently sweeps up crumbs and dirt left behind by children and pets and the large capacity dustpan is easy to empty. Other features include a soft furniture guard and it also automatically cleans its own brushes. The Evolution II is available in silver for £29.99 and makes a perfect companion for your vacuum cleaner.

Online Price: £29.99



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ON GENERAL RELEASE

TRAITOR (12A)



Academy Award nominee Don Cheadle and Guy Pearce star in *Traitor*, a taut international thriller set against a jigsaw puzzle of covert counter-espionage operations.

DUPLICITY (12A)



Spy thriller starring Julia Roberts and Clive Owen as ex-government agents working for rival multinationals. But as the stakes rise, their missions become compromised when they fall in love.

PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG)



Single dad Paul Blart is too fat to be a cop, so he works as a security officer in a New Jersey mall instead. But when a gang takes over the mall, Blart gets his chance to become a real cop at last.

Spall pays his tribute to an 'infuriating genius'

■ BY KATE WHITING

FOOTBALL legend Brian Clough doesn't appear to have a lot in common with music mogul Simon Cowell, but Timothy Spall thinks otherwise.

The seasoned British actor plays Clough's right-hand man Peter Taylor in controversial new biopic *The Damned United*. He has read more than most about the football manager and has his own theory about Clough's popularity.

"He was a loudmouth and he liked annoying people. Every now and again these personalities turn up who are both infuriating and fascinating, but you can't help but like them," Spall says.

"You could compare them to Simon Cowell – they drive you nuts, but they are so original that you can't resist them – they're marvellous in their own right. And I think Clough enjoyed the limelight."

Brian Clough, who died in 2004, was thought to be one of England's best managers. He won back-to-back European Cups with Nottingham Forest and took Derby County from the bottom of Division Two to their first Football League championship.

The *Damned United* follows the player-turned-manager's rise with Derby from 1968 up to his disastrous 44-day stint in charge of Leeds United in 1974, then the biggest club in the country.

While Clough, played by Michael Sheen, enjoyed being the front-man, his loyal assistant manager Taylor was more of a shrinking violet, a kind-hearted man who worked hard behind the scenes and let Clough take the glory.



SMOKING GUN: Timothy Spall as Peter Taylor

Their dynamic, sometimes volatile, partnership is at the heart of the film.

"Obviously it's a sporting piece, but it's very much about the marriage between Clough and Taylor," 52-year-old Spall says.

"Taylor was a typical backroom boy, like a wife in the background – he brought all the support. His real talent was for knowing which players worked together and for spotting other players that had been undervalued."

"Clough, apart from many other brilliant – and annoying – things, was an incredible man motivator. He knew how to get the best out of people. So it was a perfect marriage and a bit like a lot of double acts, comedians and showbiz partnerships, they're not as good without each other."

The film, based on the book by Red Riding author David Peace, paints Clough as a charismatic, ambitious young manager who liked to court controversy. Clough's family are reportedly bitter about the book and the film, which portrays Clough as the victim of his own ambition and competitiveness.

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

yourkenttv.co.uk



His long-standing rivalry with Leeds manager Don Revie led him to take the post when Revie became England manager, even though he had railed against the club's aggressive playing style.

Clough and Taylor fell out over the decision, and Taylor refused to join him at Leeds. Clough soon began to realise he couldn't cope on his own and became the least successful manager in the club's history.

But for all Clough's bigmouth bravura, Spall says there was a kind man underneath: "He went and visited people in hospital and if anyone needed dosh, he'd help them out."

"Very few sports types are that fascinating. He wasn't just a braggart and a pundit, he was a kind of genius."

THE DAMNED UNITED

Certificate 15



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Page 44



PROPERTY NEWS

Flooded rental market sees tumble in values

PRIVATE rents in Kent have dropped as sellers continue to flood the rental market with unwanted properties, a Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors' survey has found.

And activity in the rental market seems to be contributing to the slump in housing transactions, say the experts.

A total of 42 per cent more chartered surveyors in the South East reported a rise than a fall in rental demand, compared with just five per cent in the previous quarter.

RICS South East director Peter Miller said: "The marketplace has become more competitive as reluctant landlords continue to look to let properties they are unable to sell.

"With property sales at historic lows the rental market will continue to boom – provided unemployment levels do not increase significantly.

"The downward pressure on rents will increase in the coming months where supply matches demand, but with house prices still falling, yields will continue to increase for many investors."

David Parry, of Cluttons, said: "Increasing numbers of homes are available to rent. Tenants have a very wide choice and are able to negotiate substantial discounts.

"Family housing has fallen by 20 per cent in rental value."

Sales increase seen as ray of light by agents

ESTATE agents recorded eight property sales on average last month, according to a housing market report by the National Association of Estate Agents.

This is an increase on the average of six in January.

The return of first-time buyers to the market held firm, dropping by just one per cent of the total sales for February.

The survey also found sales prices on average were 7.5 per cent lower than the asking price.

Association president Chris Brown said: "This sales increase is a real boost for a beleaguered market. It shows the demand identified by the NAEA is slowly but surely translating into sales.

"The housing market has had a devastating year, but prices are lower than they have been for a long time and there are bargains to be had.

"These little signs all add up to a glimmer of light at the end of what has been a long and difficult tunnel."



Free national auctions offer innovative lifeline for struggling sellers



GOING ONCE, GOING TWICE... Pattinson's auctioneers believe that they have come up with an innovative solution to the continuing inertia in the country's property market

BY NICK AMES

DESPERATE sellers are turning to a new kind of property auction in a last-ditch bid to move home.

Auctioneers Pattinson will hold the UK's first free national property auctions this month and next.

The company sees this as the best way to try to help get the property market moving.

The idea has appealed to housebuilders and property-owners willing to try anything to sell their homes, with spaces fast filling up.

More than 400 properties have already been registered with the auctioneers.

If you are thinking of selling fast at maximum price, with the security of a deposit at no charge for entry or selling, entries are now being taken for the events at the New Connaught Rooms, Covent Garden, London, on Tuesday, April 21, and Tuesday, May 19.

Properties can be registered by phoning Pattinson's auction department on 0845 146 1582, with further information available at www.pattinsonauction.co.uk.

The auction will feature properties from across the UK, including prestige, new-build and family homes, commercial properties, industrial and land, with available lots located across the country.

Justin Anim, managing director at Pattinson, said: "Our property auctions have been helping companies and individuals sell and buy properties for years now, so we are using all our experience to offer new solutions to the market.

"Unlike standard property auctions, those wishing to sell at Pattinson's national auction do not need to pay a fee at all.

"It is free – no entry fee and no sales fee. It has really grabbed the attention of not only individual sellers, but developers, builders, commercial agents, solicitors, accountants and investors, so we have sourced some fantastic properties and will feature more."

Auction director Richard Francis extolled the virtues of the new system.

"In a difficult market, Pattinson is rising to the challenge with an innovative and enthusiastic approach," he said.

"Removing the financial barrier for sellers has enabled us to bring more properties to the market, giving buyers greater choice.

"We have 18 years' experience in property auctions and have developed our services during what is a difficult marketplace to offer solutions for both sellers and buyers.

"And with the national auction, we are now providing these solutions UK-wide."

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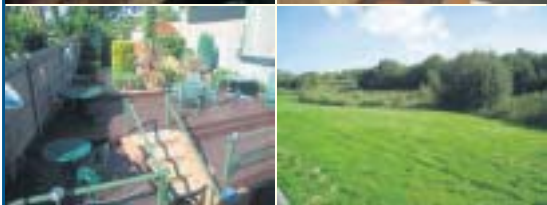


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Nautilus Drive £149,995

4 bedroom semi detached house. No onward chain. Early viewings recommended.

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Medway Road OIEO £135,000

3 Bedroom Semi Detached House. Kitchen /Diner. DG, CH. GF Cloakroom/Conservatory.

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Raleigh Way OIEO £135,000

3 Bedroom Semi Detached House. No Chain. DG, CH. Viewings Recommended

CALL OUR SHEERNESS OFFICE 01795 660255



Nursery Close OIEO £130,000

3 bedrooms, DG, CH, ground floor bathroom, garage and shared driveway.

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Salisbury Close OIEO £124,995

2 bedroom semi detached property. lounge/diner. UPVC DG, CH, gardens, garage.

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Burnup Bank OIEO £115,000

Established EOT house. Kitchen/diner, Lounge. 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

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Chilton Avenue OIEO £105,000

3 bedroom semi detached house. Walking distance to town centre. Chain free, ORP x 2.

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Harris Road OIEO £100,000

3 Bedroom End of Terrace House. Double Glazing / Central Heating. Ideal FTB.

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Melody Close OIEO £100,000

Three Bedrooms. Warden Bay Location. No Onward Chain. Viewing Recommended.

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Burnup Bank OIEO £100,000

3 bedroom extended terrace property, 1.5 miles from town, ideal for first time buyers.

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Coronation Road OIEO £90,000

2 bedrooms, lounge/diner, CH, DG, no chain, walking distance to seafront and town centre.

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Grovehurst Road OIEO £99,950

Two bedroom terrace house, Two receptions, DG, CH, front and rear gardens.

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Thorn Walk £90,000

Three bedroom terrace house. Chain Free. Kitchen/diner.

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Middletune Avenue £84,950

4 bedroom EOT house. No chain. Downstairs bathroom. 50' rear garden.

Bairstow eves

Sittingbourne 01795 427661

sittingbourne@bairstoweves.co.uk

Countrywide

Knights Court



£69,995

First floor flat, south Sittingbourne, convenient to town centre and mainline station. No onward chain.

Glenbrook Grove



£99,995

Three bedroom house, conservatory, double glazing, central heating, approximately 65 rear garden.

Sunnybank



£119,995

Three bedroom terrace house benefiting from double glazing, central heating and a garage conversion.

Borden Lane



£140,000

South Sittingbourne, popular location. Three bedroom house. Rear garden. Double glazing, central heating.

Wellwinch Road



£145,995

Three bedroom Victorian end of terrace house. Convenient access to town centre and local convenience store.

Westerham Road



£167,000

South Sittingbourne. Extended three bedroom house. Excellent condition throughout. Garage in nearby block.

Nativity Close



£189,995

South Sittingbourne. Three bedroom detached house. En-suite. Downstairs cloakroom. Driveway and garage.

Eastwood Road



OIEO £199,995

Extended Three Bedroom Semi Detached House with Parking, Utility Room and Shower Room, Garden

Mallard Crescent



£205,000

Four bedroom house, overlooking a green. Village of Iwade. Ensuite, downstairs cloakroom, utility room.

Doubleday Drive



£215,000

Extended 3 bedroom semi detached house in Bapchild. Downstairs cloakroom. Fitted wardrobes.

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WOMEN seeking men

TAKE ME FOR WHO I AM

Hi I'm Sam, 22, looking for a relationship. I'm blonde, have brown eyes, love cosy nights in, cinema, looking to share a relationship. Box 447871

WHAT'S THE SCORE?

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5'2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Sociable girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people & more, seeks similar male, 58-62, for a lasting relationship. Box 448756

BRING ME SUNSHINE

Outgoing, fun female 28, seeks outgoing, fun guy to make me laugh, share good times with. Box 448511

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Loving lovely female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, with no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471

SOUND GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447595

A NEW FUTURE!

I'm Rachel, 35, medium, enjoys pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, cinema, theme parks, looking someone special to share things with. Box 448591

ON A ROLL!

Hi, I'm Alison, 36, 5ft5, single mum, loves swimming, roller skating and meeting new people, looking for a male for friendship, maybe leading to more. Box 448865

WISHFULLY YOURS

Loving female, 37, 5ft2, brown hair, slim, looking for honest, caring male with GSOH, for friendship, leading to more. Ashford. Box 449915

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Good looking woman, 37, 5ft2, brown hair/eyes, 2 kids. Looking for new friends and hopefully someone special. Box 446039

ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LOVE

37yr old female, 2 kids, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5ft2, looking for a caring, loving, honest and trusting male to be my someone special. Box 446552

LOOKING FOR A LOVING CHAP

Ashford-based woman looking for an honest, friendly, caring and loving man. I have two kids and enjoy the usual things in life. Box 446985

YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 39yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walks, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship... Box 901893

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTm a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Nikki, 41yr young, 5ft1, enjoys dining out, cinema and dancing, seeking a male for friendship, possible romance and fun times. Box 444796

EVERLASTING LOVE

Beautiful black female, 46, WLTm a caring, gentle and loving gentleman, 45-60, 5ft10+, pref a bit sporty, for a everlasting relationship. Tunbridge Wells Box 445407

MAID MARIAN!

Hi, I'm Marian, petite, blonde, green eyes, 46, looking for my Mr Right, to have fun with and enjoy lasting relationship with. Box 449186

SOUND GOOD?

Hi I'm Lynne 46, 5ft4, dark hair/eyes, love reading/writing, going out, astrology, cars; seeking honest, caring, outgoing guy to enjoy music, fun, friendship and more! Box 449186

HI EVERYONE, I'M

Debbie, 46, slim, 5ft5, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for a man, 44-49, 5ft7+, with a nice appearance, preferably a N/S. Box 449422

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Sun-loving 48yr old woman with a second home in Lanzarote, 5ft6, fairly slim, hazel eyes, looking for a man to share fun times with. Box 450310

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

FOR KEEPS

Hi I'm Karen, 50, medium build, 5ft, separated, devoted mum, looking for friendship with someone who likes dining out, evening walks and perhaps something lasting... Box 862618

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easy-going single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things WLTm genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

ENTERTAIN ME

Female, 50, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular visiting, dining, loving and laughter, must be honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854

HERE AND NOW

Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

CARING & PROFESSIONAL

Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55, Hastings Box 417100

FUNNY GIRL

Petite, blonde female, 51, GSOH, likes music, books, films, cooking, looking for romantic soulmate 45-55 for TLC. Kent. Box 835181

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...

I'm 51, fed up with playing solitaire on the computer! Sincere and loving, enjoy many interests, looking for friendship, hopefully leading to more. Box 881711

ATTRACTIVE, BUBBLY LADY

52yrs, 5ft6, blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship Box 414143

Women seeking women

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS

I'm a 26yr old female, looking for new friends, maybe that special girl...Let's have a meal and a drink and see what happens! Box 448722

HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Slm attractive girl, 53, short dark hair, divorced, devoted mum, enjoys gardening and flower arranging, the sea, motorbikes; WLTm female who enjoys life. Box 449894

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 443750

CHOOSE ME!

Happy young fit active 41yr old, looking for a girl to treat well and make my... laid-back, relaxed and happy. Box 884095

STANDING ON OUR OWN FEET

Hi there, I'm a 42 year old male, 6ft, with brown hair/blue eyes, sincere, caring & thoughtful, OHAC, seeking female with independent mind for love. Box 884870

COULD IT BE YOU?

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800

IT'S WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT!

44yr old female, blonde hair, 5ft5, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810

MAID MARIAN!

Hi, I'm Marian, petite, blonde, green eyes, 46, looking for my Mr Right, to have fun with and enjoy lasting relationship with. Box 449186

EVERLASTING LOVE

Beautiful black female, 46, WLTm a caring, gentle and loving gentleman, 45-60, 5ft10+, pref a bit sporty, for a everlasting relationship. Tunbridge Wells Box 445407

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Hi, I'm Marian, petite, blonde, green eyes, 46, looking for my Mr Right, to have fun with and enjoy lasting relationship with. Box 449186

YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL...

Young looking, hard working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Box 883410

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 446795

DREAMS OF YOU

Genuine, caring lady, late 50s, slim & young looking, looking for a loyal, considerate, N/S male for long term relationship. Box 448566

ROMANTIC MALE WANTED!

Interests: theatre, music, gardening, cooking, walks. I'm a tactile, loving female, considerate, with a GSOH, 59, 5ft2, dark hair/blue eyes and WLTm romantic, non-smoking Gent. Box 450420

WALKS ALONG THE COAST

Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

HAPPY AS ME

Fun-to-be-with, happy, contented lady (60), 5ft4, I enjoy theatre, dining out and having friends round for a meal, gardening and pets. Box 862612

LOVING AND GENUINE

Female, early 60s, tall, slim, modern, young thinking, very adaptable to people, own house, loves animals, walking, eating out. Box 440502

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Register your number with us & send by SMS to 07786 203 777. Enter P2P as subject.

MMS - standard network charges apply.

TIME ON MY HANDS

Recently retired female, 60, 5ft1, medium build, very nice person, WLTm a male, similar age, to spend my days with, must be caring! Box 445696

LOOKING FOR A BIRDIE!

Hi there, I'm Chris, 38, in good shape, attractive, own place, hard working and honest, loves days out, golf, summer! Looking for loving companion. Box 450317

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Art-loving 40yr old, 5ft9, brown hair/eyes, into motorbikes and weight-lifting, looking for a trustworthy female for friendship to start off with and who knows? Box 448928

HI THERE I'M...

Brian, 40, 5ft8, hazel eyes, black hair, into sport and keeping fit, looking for a special lady to share the good and the bad with. Box 450563

ETERNAL FLAME

Nick, 41, 6ft, slim, dark hair/blue eyes, likes cinema, country pubs and socialising, looking for a nice, kind, caring and considerate female, 35-45. Box 450339

YOU'RE THE ONE THAT I WANT

Caring 41yr old male, 5ft11, short brown hair, blue eyes, enjoy theme parks, cinema, bowling, looking for a lady, 18-32, for friendship, maybe a relationship. Box 450316

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 443750

CHOOSE ME!

Happy young fit active 41yr old, looking for a girl to treat well and make my... laid-back, relaxed and happy. Box 884095

STANDING ON OUR OWN FEET

Hi there, I'm a 42 year old male, 6ft, with brown hair/blue eyes, sincere, caring & thoughtful, OHAC, seeking female with independent mind for love. Box 884870

LOOKING FOR A BIRDIE

Down-to-earth sociable gent, 50, likes golf, pubs, cinema, DVDs, music, works hard, seeks funny and trust-worthy woman to get to know for hopeful romance... Box 450545

LET'S GET TOGETHER

Normal bloke, 50, non worker, with normal interests, seeking a like-minded slim lady, 45-50, for LTR. Box 448957

TABLE FOR 2?

Seeking friendship and fun, I'm a 51yr old chap and I enjoy walking, pubs, restaurants etc. You? Box 450440

JUST THE TWO OF US

Black ethnic male of 54, average height, WLTm a nice lady who's romantic like me, honest, caring, loving and more, for love, romance and friendship. Box 450350

HELLO THERE,

My name's Andrew, 57, 5ft7, looking for a genuine lady for a relationship. I like travelling, walking, eating in/out, animals and going to pop concerts. Box 448926

NICE TO MEET YOU

Tall, slim, non-smoking male, Kent area. I'm 58 and enjoy playing the piano, walking, eating out. WLTm nice, non-smoking lady with similar interests. Box 446794

A PERFECT MATCH?

Loving 58yr old man, 5ft8, slim, grey hair, loves the simple things in life, travelling, gardening, looking for a lady to love and laugh with. Box 450285

ONE-TO-ONE

Easygoing presentable chap, 63, 6ft, blue eyes, honest, genuine, sincere, WLTm slim, attractive, special lady to enjoy life and love. Box 448497

WHY DON'T WE HAVE A CHAT?

Nice, romantic male, 64, semi-retired, N/S, GSOH, enjoys dancing, beach walks, cuddles. WLTm female, 55-65, for friendship, hopefully relationship. Box 188254

MY FAIR LADY

Affectionate and fit male, 67yr old, 5ft9, GSOH, OHAC, enjoys dancing and theatre, WLTm a nice lady to enjoy life with. Box 442946

Men seeking men

A BRIGHTER FUTURE
 Solder, professional 41yr old male, enjoys eating out, films and keeping fit. WLTm a younger male for fun, friendship and hopefully love. Box 444725

FROM ME TO YOU

Genuine nice, 45, 5ft10, medium build, looking to meet someone, 40-50, who likes socialising, pubs, clubs and more. Box 450525

I'M WAITING FOR MY MAN

Very friendly outgoing male, 56, simple and down-to-earth, looking for likewise male for friendship first and perhaps leading to more later on. Box 450518

TO BUILD A FUTURE

Caring, happy, tactile man,

MOTORS NEWS



Passer-by thinks funky Materia's bit of all white

SPRING is in the air, but Daihatsu dealer Roger Chapman of Express Garage, Herne Bay, can't wait for more snow.

He had been clearing snow from a Daihatsu Materia when passer-by Alan Harding became curious about what lay beneath. Once the funky mini-MPV was revealed, he promptly ordered his own and his wife Coralie followed suit.

"We weren't even looking for a new car, never mind two," said Mr Harding, pictured with his wife and Mr Chapman (centre). Prices start at £10,770.



Honda hybrid aims for the 'everyday' motorist

HONDA'S new Insight petrol-electric hybrid is not aimed at 'eco-evangelists', but ordinary car buyers.

Priced from £15,490, with long-term savings on depreciation and Benefit in Kind taxation, the Insight should average well over 60mpg and cost only £35/year to tax. It also substantially undercuts the rival Toyota Prius (from £18,870).

With no reliability problems reported on the previous Civic IMA hybrid, Honda says the operating life of the Insight's batteries will outlast the car itself.



Peugeot powers more CC sales with the 308

PEUGEOT invented folding hardtops in the 1930s and then made them mass market in 2001, by launching the 206CC.

From then until last year's recession the CC (coupé convertible) sector soared eight-fold to 250,000 across Europe and the French marque launches the 308CC (from £19,495) on June 1, though the fleet-footed can be in one earlier by ordering an exclusive £23,595 GT100 version.

The 308CC is a stylish four-seater, can be spec'd to luxurious levels and delivers a decent drive.



IT'S A BIG DIFFERENCE: Like most mini-MPVs the boot in the Suzuki Splash is small, but the carmaker has deleted the spare wheel to free space beneath the boot floor

Suzuki sends in the clones

GET used to even more cloning of small cars like the Suzuki Splash, especially now that we have a global slowdown.

True, demand for mini cars has increased, but unit profitability is small too so it makes sense to 're-invent the wheels' for several carmakers to use.

But how does Suzuki make the case for people to buy the Splash, when it is nearly identical to the Vauxhall Agila? The fag paper-thin argument comes down largely to Splash being a bright new name that buries memories of the quite awful Wagon-R model it replaced... the same quite awful car re-badged and also sold as the original Vauxhall Agila.

The Splash (from £8,350) has arguably the neater front grille too, while the smaller model line-up is better equipped as standard and concentrates on the 1.2-litre petrol engine – the best deal on offer across both ranges, including the 1.3-litre diesel option.

Morally, Suzuki also deserves the business as the Splash/Agila uses the its Swift hatch-back platform – pound-for-pound one of the

ROAD TEST SUZUKI SPLASH

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

best superminis around – and the clones are built by Suzuki in Hungary, although Vauxhall masterminded the car's huge interior and overall design. It has a small footprint and a tall stance without the leaning and fidgety ride usually associated with lofty creations on short wheelbases. In fact, the Splash is a decent drive – sure-footed and responsive – and one of a few that the average downsizing family could pick to cover all their needs.

Like most mini-MPVs the boot is small, so Suzuki has deleted the spare wheel to free space beneath the boot floor, but the dashboard is well-arranged with nice detail and the car is awash with stowage.

Three people across the back seat would not feel especially cramped either – fold down one rear seat and you have loads more space while retaining two seats – and headroom is exceptional. However, the seats feel thin on long journeys and overall cabin ambience could use more quality.

Our £9,350 1.2GLS+ test car looks to be the best buy; on top of generous standard kit including air con you also gain alloys, front fog lamps and rear privacy glass that give this stylish yet upright car a touch of class.



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VAUXHALL'S BIG VALUE DRIVE

CORSA 1.3CDTi (75PS)

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TYPICAL

£1000
RECYCLING
ALLOWANCE

UP TO
74.3
MPG

£35
ROAD FUND
LICENCE

With 0% finance and £1000 Recycling Allowance the Corsa 1.3CDTi (75PS) is now even more affordable to drive away. And with a fuel efficient 74.3MPG and only £35 annual road tax, it's more affordable to run.



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Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Corsa range: urban 26.9 (10.5) - 49.6 (5.7), extra-urban 44.1 (6.4) - 74.3 (3.8), combined 35.8 (7.9) - 62.8 (4.5), CO₂ Emissions 119 - 190g/km.

Model shown has optional 17-inch alloy wheels available at extra cost. Up to 74.3mpg figure refers to extra-urban cycle on the Corsa 1.3CDTi (75 PS). £35 refers to annual road tax cost on Corsa 1.3CDTi (75PS) models. No deposit 0% finance available on selected Corsa models. Finance by GMAC UK plc, applicants must be aged 18 or over. Finance offer available at participating retailers only. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK supplied vehicles only. A guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Recycling Allowance offer is available on selected engines and applies to the trade in and agreement to dispose of one vehicle only. To qualify for this offer, a customer must purchase one of the eligible models, trade in a vehicle and agree to dispose of the vehicle. The trade in vehicle must have been registered in the name of the customer prior to 30.06.08. Vehicle must be able to be driven on the highway. The customer must supply a vehicle registration document (V5C) and a valid MOT certificate to the retailer for the trade in vehicle. Vauxhall will ensure the vehicle is disposed of under the end of life vehicle directive and a certificate of destruction will be held by the retailer. If the customer agrees to dispose of the vehicle a total of £1000 (inc. VAT) will be paid towards the purchase of a new eligible model irrespective of the current market value of their vehicle. For more details on this offer and the eligible models go to www.offers.vauxhall.co.uk or visit your local retailer. Offers available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. All offers apply to selected new vehicles ordered or registered between 03.02.09 and 02.04.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. (Vaux64980)



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warranty



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on brakes, battery
& clutch



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vehicle search

Pomphreys
Always something extra



YEAR	REG	MODEL	ENGINE	DOORS	COLOUR	MILEAGE	£	YEAR	REG	MODEL	ENGINE	DOORS	COLOUR	MILEAGE	£
CORSA								2006	06	Astra Design	1.6	5	Panacotta	25,000	£7,695
2006	06	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Ultra blue	26,075	£5,695	2006	06	Astra Sport Twin top	1.8	2	Ultra blue	14,000	£8,995
2008	08	New Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	1,880	£9,195	2006	06	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Metro blue	22,800	£8,395
2008	58	New Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Metro blue	5,770	£10,995	2006	06	Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Ultra blue	21,500	£6,995
ASTRA								2007	57	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Flame red	16,000	£12,995
2005	55	Astra Club E/T	1.6	5	Breeze blue	18,650	£6,295	2007	57	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue	12,000	£14,495
2007	07	Astra Design S/hatch (panoramic roof)	1.6	3	Flame red	14,050	£9,495	2008	08	Astra Sxi	1.4	5	Metro blue	10,000	£9,295
2007	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Panacotta	8,275	£9,495	2008	58	Astra Sri Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	TBA	£10,995
2007	57	Astra Club CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	10,680	£8,995	2008	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Black sapphire	TBA	£9,995
2007	57	Astra Sport Twin Top	1.8	2	Star Silver	14,650	£11,995	2008	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	TBA	£10,995
2008	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Star silver	17,300	£9,495	2006	56	Meriva Breeze	1.6	5	Star silver	21,000	£6,495
2008	08	Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Star silver	3,460	£10,895	2003	53*	Vectra Club	1.8	5	Moonland	42,000	£3,795
2008	08	Astra Breeze Plus Sports hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	5,800	£10,795	2004	04	Vectra Sri Auto	2.2	5	Star silver	48,000	£4,995
2008	58	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	3,100	£10,795	2005	05	Zafira Design CDTi (120)	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	55,000	£7,350
2008	58	Astra Sports hatch Sxi	1.4	3	Star silver	2,810	£10,795	2004	54*	Kia Picanto	1.1	5	Blue	41,000	£3,295
VECTRA								PRE-REG VEHICLES							
2008	57	Vectra CDTi Exclusive Auto	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	5,870	£10,995	2008	58	Corsavan	1.3 CDTi		White	Delivery	£6,995+VAT
ANTARA								2008	58	Astravan Sportive	1.7D		Silver	Delivery	10,995+VAT
2008	08	Antara S CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Slate blue	5,350	£15,995	2007	57	Combo	1.3 CDTi		White	Delivery	£7,495+VAT
MERIVA								2008	58	Combo	1.7 CDTi		White	Delivery	£8,495+VAT
2006	06	Meriva Active E/T	1.6	5	Silver lightening	26,500	£6,395	2008	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		White	Delivery	£10,795+VAT
2006	06	Meriva Design	1.6	5	Star silver	17,500	£6,695	2008	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£10,995+VAT
2008	08	Meriva Breeze	1.4	5	Black sapphire	12,500	£8,495	2008	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		Black	Delivery	£11,995+VAT
2008	08	Meriva Life A/c	1.4	5	Black sapphire	3,790	£7,995	2008	58	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		Black	Delivery	£12,495+VAT
ZAFIRA								2008	58	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		Black	Delivery	£13,995+VAT
2005	05	Zafira Life	1.8	5	Ultra blue	38,250	£5,995	2008	58	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£13,995+VAT
2005	55	Zafira Active	1.8	5	Silver lightening	27,200	£6,495	2008	58	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		Blue	Delivery	£11,995+VAT
2006	06	Zafira Active	1.6	5	Black sapphire	22,850	£6,995	USED SELECTION							
2008	08	New Zafira Breeze CDTi +	1.9D	5	Star silver	3,985	£12,895	2007	07	Astravan	1.9 CDTi Sportive		Moonland	25,000	£7,995+VAT
NON VAUXHALL								2007	07	Astravan	1.3D CDTi		White	14,200	6,495+VAT
2002	52*	Fiat Punto Active Sport	1.2	3	Metallic red	61,500	£2,995	2008	08	Astravan SE	1.9D		Star silver	5,760	£10,995+VAT
2001	51*	Renault Dynamic Clio	1.2	3	Metallic blue	76,150	£3,150	2007	07	Combo	1.3D		White	8,700	£7,995+VAT
2003	03*	Renault Scenic Fidji	1.4	5	Silver	55,000	£3,695	2008	08	Combo	1.3D		Silver	1,218	£7,995+VAT
2006	56*	Hyundai Coupe Atlantic	2.0	2	Silver	17,200	£7,995	2006	56	Movano	2.5 CDTi LWB		Silver	19,700	£9,995+VAT
DUE SOON								2007	57	Movano	2.50CDTi		White	10,300	£12,995+VAT
2005	55	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Flame red	53,000	£4,995	2008	08	Movano	2.5CDTi		White	11,050	£11,995+VAT
2007	07	Corsa Club	1.2	3	Air blue	10,000	£7,295	2008	08	Movano	2.5D		White	6,460	£13,995+VAT
2007	57	Corsa Design CDTi	1.7D	5	Blues	4,900	£9,995	2005	55*	Vivaro	1.9D		Red	57,500	£8,995+VAT
2005	05	Astra Life E/T	1.6	5	Star silver	36,000	£5,995	2007	57	Vivaro	1.9 CDTi		White	12,100	£9,495+VAT
2005	55	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.4	3	Ultra blue	14,000	£6,995	2008	08	Vivaro	2.0 CDTi		White	5,050	£10,995+VAT
								2008	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi		White	16,050	£9,795+VAT
								2008	08	Vivaro	2.5CDTi		Star silver	3,190	£15,995+VAT
								2005	55*	Traffic	1.9 DTi		Blue	76,100	£5,995+VAT

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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

MPV HATCHBACKS

CARMAKERS have been busy in recent years trying to cater for buyers who need MPV-style space with small hatchback manageability. Their efforts have met with mixed success, as shown by our three used car candidates. They each have large cabins relative to their size and many clever MPV tricks in seating and flexibility and there are bargains to be had, but such benefits can come at the expense of looks and style and driving enjoyment – buyers have to balance what their heart says against what their head is demanding...

NISSAN NOTE



THIS was a clever attempt to fill the gap left by two cars deleted from the Nissan line-up. It is not the prettiest car, but there can be few offering so much versatility within the compact dimensions of a large supermini. The boot has been cleverly arranged for different modes, the cabin is spacious and the Note is also available with frugal yet lively Renault-derived diesel power – though these command a premium – but the ride can be fidgety.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

HONDA JAZZ



HONDA has just replaced the original Jazz, so used values have eased from heights expected for this clever and reliable little car. Supermini manageability is married perfectly to a capacious cabin and rear seats that can lift to allow big loads or shopping to be packed quickly behind the front seats. There is no diesel, the CVT (continuously variable transmission) auto option is not everyone's favourite and the ride is firm, especially on earliest cars, but still a sound buy.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

RENAULT MODUS



THOUGH the Modus is related to the Note, it has not been so successful. The looks are chic and it is the more refined car to be in as the ride is more relaxed, but the original cabin is smaller, so versatility is less obvious. However, used prices have eased, especially as the later and stretched Grand Modus version has started to appear on the used market, so the original versions are becoming very affordable in petrol and diesel guise.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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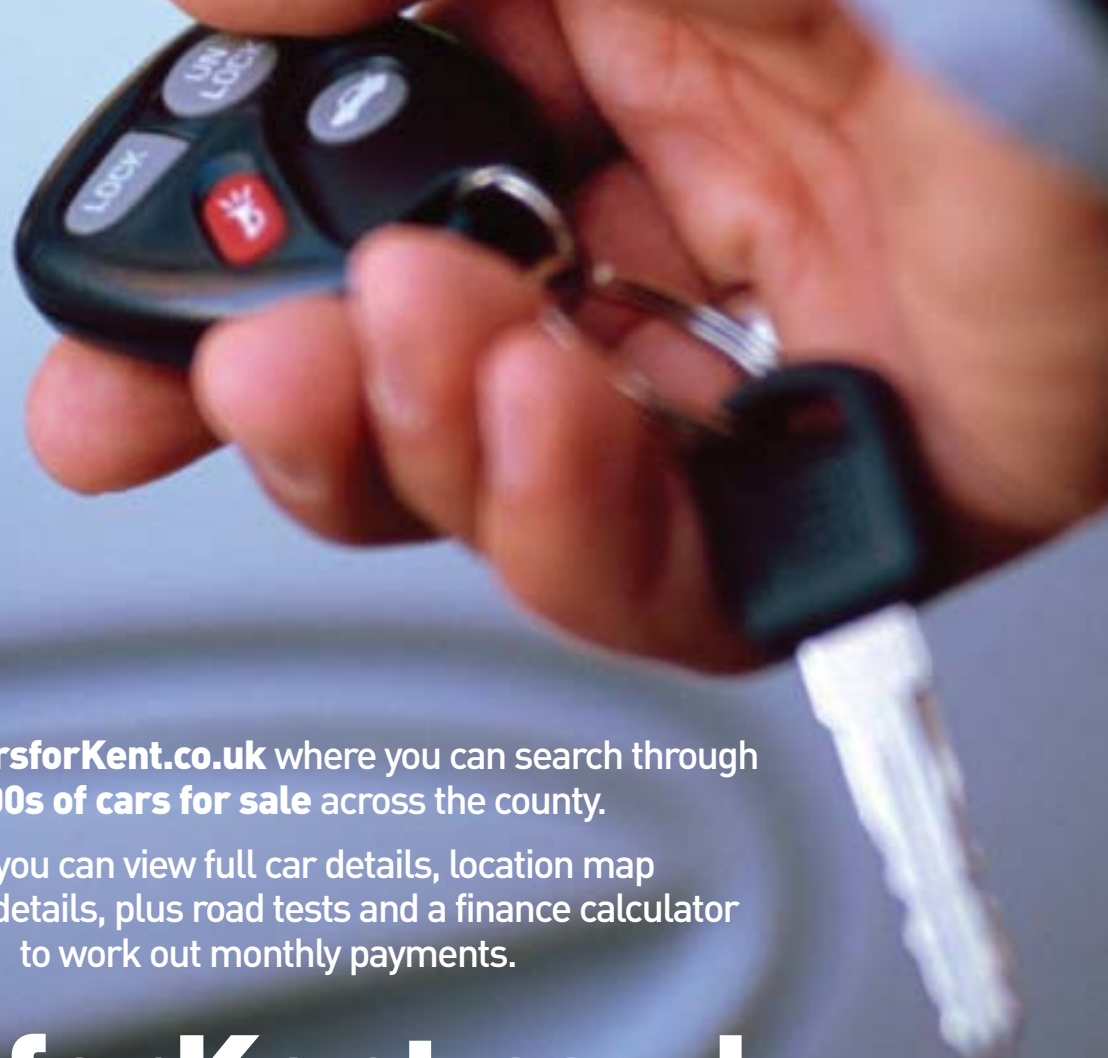
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Or e-mail enquiries swale.marina@virgin.net



Kings Hill Pre-School
are currently looking to recruit an afternoon Key Person, Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri, 11.45am to 15.45pm.

Must be at least NVQ Level 2 in Early Years or equivalent.

Closing date for applications **Friday 3rd April 2009.**

Please telephone Sherri or Tania on 01732 840180 or email info@kingshillpreschool.co.uk

KOS Media, publisher of the award-winning Kent on Sunday, the Saturday Observer, and our midweek titles and associated websites, has a vacancy for a

Freelance sub-editor

We are currently looking for a freelance sub-editor for three days work a week. Candidates must have excellent QuarkXpress skills and be competent at using Adobe Photoshop.

You will be able to spot a typo at 100 paces and be able to write attention-grabbing headlines.

• To apply, send a CV and covering letter to: Dave Hobday, Head of Subbing or email dave.hobday@kosmedia.co.uk.



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KOS Media
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Candidates should possess relevant trade qualifications and experience in Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (ACR) or Heating and Plumbing (H&P) and be able to demonstrate supervisory skills and experience, ideally within these trade areas. Candidates will be required to undertake teaching duties in these trade disciplines, if required to maintain course continuity.

Evidence of formal teaching experience or qualifications is not critical as candidates will be provided with appropriate training and supported to achieve appropriate teaching qualifications. You will supervise a number of trade Instructors.

MKC Training Services Limited is responsible for delivering the trade, technical and professional training to the Royal Engineers at Chatham and has recently been awarded a 30 year contract. These positions are therefore permanent full time posts with the opportunity for the right candidates to join an exciting organisation making a real difference to the British Army.

If this looks like the right career move for you, contact Ken Pullan on 07725 128661 for an informal discussion or forward a copy of your CV to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

Job descriptions for these posts are available at www.midkent.ac.uk (follow RSME vacancies)

Closing date: 19th April 2009

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Duties will include making of Doctor Blades for printing presses, operation of automated cleaning of Ink buckets, maintaining equipment and housekeeping. Full training will be provided.

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To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0RJ or alternatively you can email to jobs@uk.fujiseal.com.

Closing date: 6 April 2009

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TEACHER OF ICT

F/T Teacher of ICT required for September 2009 to teach from KS3 to GCSE or A Level.

Buckwood (NOR 350) is a thriving independent, co-ed, day & boarding school with a strong international ethos located on the East Sussex coast.

Closing date: Friday 17 April.

For a Job Description e-mail: wisdom@buckwood.co.uk

See www.buckwood.co.uk for a fuller picture of life at Buckwood.



TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

F/T Teacher of Mathematics required for September 2009 to teach from KS3 to A Level.

Buckwood (NOR 350) is a thriving independent, co-ed, day & boarding school with a strong international ethos located on the East Sussex coast.

Closing date: Friday 17 April.

For a Job Description e-mail: wisdom@buckwood.co.uk

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Closing Date : Friday 3rd April 2009

KOS Media, publisher of the award-winning Kent on Sunday, the Saturday Observer, and the YourLocal midweek titles and associated websites, has vacancies for

Distribution & Promotional staff

Part-time Weekends.

We require a number of staff across the county to assist in the distribution and promotion of our award winning titles.

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- Please telephone Barbara or Lyndsay on 01303 817070.



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37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum	
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37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum. Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months.	
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Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Supply Lecturer required in the following areas:	
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37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,963 per annum	
Supply NVQ Assessors required in the following areas:	
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Supply Lecturers within the Faculty of Engineering and Construction	S/EC
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- Plumbing
- Gas fitting
- Key Skills
- Mathematics
- ICT
- Any other related trade

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 noon

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
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Supply Lecturer Administration

Ref: S/SH/Admin

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For more information and an application pack please contact:
Miss S Spratley, Pent Valley Technology College,
Surrenden Road, Folkestone, Kent. CT19 4ED.

Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01303 277161 ext 2218 Fax: 01303 279342

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Interview Date: Week commencing Monday 6th April 2009



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Tricia Cole, Manager, DDCS, 10 Victoria Road, Deal, Kent CT14 7AP

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Closing date: For Hotfoot Wednesday 8 April 2009.
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Tenterden & District Age Concern Day Care Centre

Age Concern Day Centre Manager – We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and experienced person to manage the day to day running and organisation of the Day Centre, which provides a variety of day care services for older people.

NVQ 3 in Care or equivalent qualification essential.

Previous experience of working with older people preferred.

Working hours – 35 hours per week

Annual leave 20 days plus statutory Bank Holidays.

Starting salary not less than £18,000.00 pa, depending on experience and qualifications.

Secretary/administrative support – We also require a flexible and adaptable person to work on a part-time basis offering secretarial and administrative support to the Age Concern Day Centre Manager and staff.

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Annual leave 20 days plus statutory Bank Holidays.

For details contact Nicky Tredway 01580 762882.

Tenterden & District Day Centre, Church Road, Tenterden. TN30 6AT

Closing date April 17th 2009

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Salary: £20.37 - £28.92 per hour

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Closing date: Friday 17 April 2009

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). All communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Management coaching boosts Scipac profits

TRAINING does work. It's a major topic on business people's lips these days, but it's usually hard to quantify if it has been successful. However, one Kent company – Sittingbourne-based Scipac – has used business coaches for its top executive and management team and reports dramatic results.

It is projecting a 28 per cent growth in revenue and a 60 per cent increase in profit for the financial year ended March.

The firm has been trading for nearly 25 years. Founded by Dr Clive Dawes and the late Tony Raeside, it has developed products used in the health diagnostic sector, but growth meant it was in a transitional phase.

Managing director Stephane Argivier said: "Because of the changes in strategy we needed to get relevant experience into our management team as fast as possible. We saw coaching as a way of accelerating the implementation of our business plan."

It called in Maidstone-based WSQ Solutions and now the company reports: "Our staff feel more valued, motivated and clear about their targets and roles."

Green awards reminder as deadline approaches

TIME is running out for companies to enter the Environment Awards for Kent Business 2009 – the deadline is April 30.

Organiser Alex Green said: "Taking part is not a labour-intensive process, so we would advise companies to enter as soon as possible. There is a simple form to fill in which can be downloaded from www.kent.gov.uk/environmentawards.

"The top ten companies shortlisted will receive a visit from the judging panel and are then invited to the black-tie awards ceremony in September.

"If you know of an organisation you think deserves recognition for its work to protect the environment or within the community, why not nominate them?"

The awards also reward companies that have had a positive impact in the community.

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Julie Maddocks asks: "Is small really beautiful in business?" Search 'crunch'

New scheme revives village shops again

■ BY TONY PATEY

A SCHEME that helps villages open a community shop is proving a huge success in the county.

It is probably the first time in the UK that a dedicated scheme with all the help and advice on board has been rolled out.

And such is the interest, supporters believe it could lead to dozens of villages having a shop again.

The project has just been launched by Kent's 'Mr Rural Retailer' – Sean Carter.

The Community Shop Development Scheme, sponsored by Kent County Council and the South East England Development Agency (Seed), is being run by Mr Carter and co-worker Victoria Lawson.

There are four such shops already open in the county, but with the new scheme now on the go the team hopes to more than double that number within a year.

It's linked with the Kent Association of Rural Retailers (Karr) – again, reckoned to be the only one of its kind in the UK – which is run by Mr Carter, a former blue-chip retail company executive, as part of his role as rural retail adviser to Action with Communities in Rural Kent.

Permission

Community shops have been operating in Littlebourne since 2000, Cliffsend since 2004, Biddenden since 2005 and Shoreham since 2007.

There have been two open days about the scheme, and there are plans to open shops in Barham in mid-May and Chart Sutton at the end of June, subject to planning permission.

Ms Lawson, who helps groups set up a legal entity to run the shops and raise money, said a number of villages had expressed strong interest.

The next open day is at Lenham on



ON THE BOUNDARY: The timeless allure of village life is being enhanced by the setting up of community shops

Wednesday, April 22.

A general pamphlet is being worked on, along with a ring-binder booklet with full details which can be updated as necessary.

Ms Lawson said communities had first of all got to establish, perhaps through a public meeting, if they really wanted a shop and then if they intended to fully support it.

Once the go-ahead is given, a steering group is set up and a legal entity created, usually an industrial and provident society, but it could be a company.

Villagers can buy one share each, giving them the right to vote on the shop's future. The going price is usually £20 but can vary.

Premises could be a former pub, for example, former shop or even a container cabin.

The shops are not-for-profit and any surplus, or money which comes out of them, if they fold, must be spent locally. Mr Carter said that out

of 180 community shops across the country – growing at the rate of 15 a year – he knew of only a couple that had closed. He said: "It's amazing. Once a community has lost its shop and actually gets involved in setting up a new one, they realise it's their own shop and they tend not to let it go down.

"The scheme has got off to a good start. It shows there is now an awareness at local government level that a lot of talking has been done in the past about retail services, and now at last we are seeing a bit of action.

"I still believe commercial shops should be getting a bit of the action as well.

"They are just as valuable to the community. The post office closures really started focusing minds about what was going on in rural Kent."

• Email victoria.lawson@ruralkent.org.uk for more details.



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Pedal power helps Byrne prepare for Spanish challenge

SHANE Byrne heads to Valencia in Spain this weekend hoping to build on his first points haul of the World Superbikes Championship.

The Sheppey-born superbike rider picked up points for finishing 12th and sixth in Qatar in the last round of the series and will be confident this weekend as he knows the Valencia track well, having raced there in his MotoGP days.

Byrne, 33, is also likely to receive a timely boost ahead of the meeting, as Sterilgarda Ducati team-mate, Alex

SUPERBIKES

Polita, is expected to be back after missing the opening two rounds of the championship.

The British Superbike champion has been preparing himself for the weekend's race by putting in the miles cycling.

He said: "Things have been going pretty good here for me, training-wise.

"I already had all my cycling routes sorted in my head and I've been going pretty

well. The four days I did equated to about 215 miles, with plenty of climbs thrown into the mix."

Byrne is hoping to call on his days racing for Stobart Honda in 2003 at Valencia as he aims to net his first podium finish of the championship.

He said: "I'm looking forward to riding there again. Funnily enough, I was talking about our test there back in 2003, when we set some pretty quick times.

"Let's hope we have the same sort of run there this weekend."



Picture: STERILGARDA DUCATI

HOT RUBBER: Shane Byrne returns to Valencia this weekend

Islanders level top in fight with City

AFC Sheppey remain in the hunt for the Kent County Division One East title after beating Kennington on Saturday.

The islanders scraped through 2-1 to remain level on points at the top with Canterbury City, who themselves won 3-1 at home to New Romney.

Jamie Allen's side travel to Guru Nanak at the weekend.

In the Premier Division, Fulston and Milton United are still in trouble after they were beaten 2-1 at home by Lewisham Borough.

They return to action on Saturday as they take on Fleet Leisure, while fellow strugglers Sheerness East travel to Bearsted.

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Gills boss Mark Stimson talks about new loan signing Josh Wright

Galloping towards back-to-back titles

WHITE Horse's quest for back-to-back Sheppey Sunday League titles took a massive step forward as they beat second-placed Holm Sports.

White Horse won 4-0 through goals from Paul Davis, Steve Collar, Jack Brown and Bradley Pearce.

The win was made more significant by challengers Milton and Fulston's 3-0 defeat to Red Lion.

Leysdown are building a head of steam for their league cup final after a resounding 7-1 demolition of Park Regis.

Dan Servante hit four, with Kam Singh (2) and Craig Street also on the scoresheet.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



HIGH FIVE: Dane Luchford heads the opener for Town, before the rout was completed as Dave Botterill's corner was helped into the net by Oaks goalkeeper Williams

Off-colour Lilywhites back to winning ways

FOOTBALL

■ BY TONY GRAY

Sevenoaks 1

Spackman 67

Faversham Town 5

Luchford 24, Lord 60, Abel 60, Soutan 83, Botterill 89

before sending in a cross for Thompson to head down into the path of Abel, who made no mistake as he netted his 19th of the season.

A similar move minutes later saw Ashley Brown provide the cross, with goalkeeper Williams doing just enough to deny Thompson.

Abel made way for Chris Oyeabanjo on 65 minutes, while Dave Soutan came on to replace Shane Hamshare. Minutes later the home side pulled a goal back. A well-struck shot from 25 yards by Perry Spackman flew into the Town goal, giving Carl Hodgson little chance.

With recent league and cup disappointments behind them, the Lilywhites played some enter-

Faversham Town starting XI



Subs: Oyeabanjo (Abel 65), Soutan (Hamshare 67)

taining passing football in front of a crowd of only 33.

Soutan added goal number four on 83 minutes. Receiving the ball with his back to goal, he turned and volleyed home from ten yards.

To round off an afternoon he'd rather forget, goalkeeper Williams also gifted the visitors their fifth as he could only flap at Botterill's corner kick to help the ball into the net on 89 minutes.

Town return to action tonight as they take on Deal Town at Salters Lane. Kick-off is at 7.45pm.

Brickies play-off hopes hang by just a thread

FOOTBALL

BY PETER PITTS

Sittingbourne 1

Richmond 21

Burgess Hill Town

Tate 61

BOURNE'S inability to replicate their amazing away form at home surfaced again, with two points squandered against relegation-threatened Burgess Hill Town.

With just one change from the side that beat Dulwich Hamlet 2-0 in midweek – after Mark De Bolla pulled up in training on Thursday – there were high hopes that Sittingbourne would consolidate their play-off push against the struggling Sussex side, despite being without the injured Richard Brady, Tom Bradbrook and Ian Varley.

Burgess Hill were themselves missing influential players in midfielder Lloyd Cotton and defender Nicky Fogden.

The Brickies should have taken the lead on eight minutes when a free-kick found Matt Bourne at the far post. He headed the ball to an unmarked Nick Reeves who blasted an excellent chance over the bar. The swirling wind was making life difficult for both sides and Sittingbourne were not helping them-



Picture: CHRIS RECAN

Sittingbourne starting XI



Subs used: Manners (Andrews 73), Spice (Green 73)

Hillians' area. The resultant Horlock free-kick forced Hillians goalkeeper Callum Christie to palm the ball over the bar. A good run by Tate, when he shook off Reeves's challenge, ended in him forcing Matt Reed into fisting the ball away. Then Kayembe had a shot comfortably saved by Christie and a snap shot by Horlock was easily held.

Burgess Hill started the second half confidently and on 61 minutes Tate found space at the far post and headed Gavin Geddes's cross past Reed to bring the match level. There was almost an immediate response from the Brickies when Mark Green was presented with an opportunity, but he headed over.

Bourne pushed for a winner and shots rained on the Hillians goal before the ball was blasted over by Horlock.

Hillians continued to frustrate the Brickies and almost won it themselves in added time but Reed pulled off a good save.

Sittingbourne were in action at home to Merstham on Monday night. For a report and reaction from Bourne Park, click on the website www.yoursware.co.uk.

HONOURS EVEN: Sittingbourne striker Elie Kayembe was unable to shoot his side to victory at the weekend

selves by reverting to lumping the ball forward instead of the slick movement they showed at Dulwich.

However, they struck first on 21 minutes, as Joe Horlock's free-kick was fired in from a tight angle by Colin Richmond. Sittingbourne then took command, but a good run and shot by Wes Tate showed that the Hillians were not out of it.

Elie Kayembe was trying hard up front and on 24 minutes he was fouled just outside the

FOOTBALL

Dour struggle turns into feast of goals

Norton Sports 3 Erith & Belvedere 4

NORTON were on the wrong end of a seven-goal thriller at Winch's Field at the weekend.

The first half was a dour struggle for both sides with both defences looking unsettled, but the two sets of forwards were unable to put together any reasonable moves.

The home side tried to force the issue, but were unable to create anything worthwhile. Just as it looked as it was going to be goalless at half-time, a through-ball saw Prett in space and he cleverly chipped the ball over Paul West and into the net.



THRILLER: But Norton Sports were caught out

The second half started at a much quicker pace and within two minutes Norton were level. The home side were awarded a free-kick on the right and the ball was lofted into the area, where an unmarked Tom Nunn headed in.

Norton were now on top and started to push on and move the ball quicker. Ten minutes later they went in front after good work by Tony Clark set up Jack Goodger to put in a far-post cross that Frazer Rogers headed in from ten yards.

Ben Taylor's side looked to increase their lead and Erith were looking all at sea, but an injury to an Erith player caused a long delay and when the game restarted, Norton seemed to have lost their spark.

On the hour Erith pulled level, when a weak cross from the left was allowed into the six-yard box for a simple tap-in by Ross Cable.

The game was now open for both sides to go for the win and on 81 minutes it was the visitors who took the initiative. Despite looking off-side, Erith were allowed to carry on to set up a chance on the edge of the box that was well finished by Joe Hitchings.

Norton threw bodies forward to try to grab the leveller, but on full-time Erith broke down the right and a low cross was hit in to the area, where Hitching reacted first to loop an effort past West in the Norton goal.

The home side carried on pressing and forced a corner that was hit to the far post, where Goodger headed home powerfully for what was only a consolation.

RUGBY



Title challenge is snuffed out

Old Gravesendians 17 Sittingbourne 7

SITTINGBOURNE'S faint hopes of clinching the Kent 1 title were shot down in flames at the weekend.

Bourne went into Saturday's game with Old Gravesendians on the back of the thrilling 17-12 win against league leaders Medway, but Scott Truss's side were unable to build on that victory.

The win for the home side ensures the Kent 1 title is now just a two-horse race between Medway and Old Gravesendians, who are four points behind the leaders.

Saturday's defeat ended a run of six straight wins for Bourne who will want to finish the season in style in at least third place.

Truss's side have just two games left of the season, at home to Gillingham on Saturday and then a trip to Vigo on the last day.

Champions have too much in locker for Gore Court

HOCKEY

Wimbledon 5 Gore Court 3

GORE Court travelled to champions Wimbledon knowing the game was a dress rehearsal for their promotion decider against Purley this weekend.

Court were keen to put in a good performance and build confidence ahead of the game with the Surrey side, but it didn't go to plan in the early stages.

Wimbledon started brightly and were ahead within the first five minutes after a well-taken goal, but Court hit back immediately through Doug Reed.

However, Court were unable to contain a vibrant Wimbledon attack and they scored two more goals.

At 3-1 Court then made a basic error and gifted a goal to the Wimbledon centre-forward, and the points were as good as lost when the home side made it five just before half-time.

Court set about clawing back the deficit and Sam Miller, on at right wing, made an instant impact in the second half with a good goal.

With 15 minutes to go Aaron Glass got on the end of a Paul Surridge cross to make it 5-3 and the recovery was still on. Court hit the post and went close on two other occasions, but the experienced Wimbledon were able to hang on to secure victory and the well



Picture: KOBALPO

DON DEAL: Gore Court were unable to stop champions Wimbledon from showing their quality

deserved title.

Court find themselves third, one point behind Purley. The club will be taking a big contingent of fans with them as they bid to return to South East hockey's top flight.

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